



# ALMANAC



March 2019

No. 413

## New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs of GFWC

55 Labor Center Way, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

### President's Message—Mary E. Wolfe

March is Women's History Month - always a good time to reflect on those outstanding women who inspire us to greatness!

This President hopes that you've been receiving the eConnection and reading about some of the early Presidents of NJSFWC who reached for the stars. Women like Margaret Tufts Yardley, who fought for the improvement of NJ child labor laws; and Cecilia Gaines Holland, who was just 35 when she became president. Under her administration, an appeal was made to the Governor to establish travelling libraries and legislation was sought to include kindergartens in the public schools. We truly have a legacy of which to be proud!

If you're not signed up for the eConnection, please visit [njsfwc.org](http://njsfwc.org) and subscribe. You can also read some of the past issues on the website in the News section.

Speaking of inspiring women – do you realize that we're approaching the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of women's suffrage? There were many NJ women, such as Alice Paul and Portia Gage, who were active in the movement. You'll want to be sure to attend the Wednesday Business Session of Convention on May 8<sup>th</sup> to hear a representative of the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial tell us more about some of those intrepid women. This is just one of the many reasons to attend our 125<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention and Celebrate A Proud Legacy!

The first of two scheduled state-wide fundraisers to benefit our Special State Project, Court Appointed Special Advocates of NJ, will be held at the Hunterdon Hills Playhouse on Wednesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>. This President hopes you're

planning to attend to see The Mahoney Brothers present California Dreaming!

It's so gratifying to hear how the clubs of NJSFWC have embraced our State Project! Reading your newsletters and hearing reports from the District Vice Presidents, this President can't help but smile thinking of the benefit to the children who are on the receiving end of your generosity.

March is a busy month, with District Arts Performing Festivals and preparations for District Achievement Days and Spring Conferences. Please take advantage of these benefits of membership and spend time in fellowship with your Federation sisters!

Get ready to attend the 125<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention May 6-8 at the Golden Nugget Atlantic City. Chairman Darlene Grady and her committee have spent many hours planning a celebration worthy of our 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Credentials and Registration Chairman Rosemarie Saviello and her committee will be ready to greet you and provide you with your credentials. We are looking forward to welcoming GFWC International President Mary Ellen Brock and GFWC First Vice President Deb Strahanoski.

Thank you in advance for meeting two important deadlines of April 1<sup>st</sup>, when your Continuing Funds are due and May 1<sup>st</sup>, when the Yearbook Data "Blue Sheet" is due, listing your incoming officers and number of members for the 2019-2020 club year.

In Federation Friendship,

*Mary*

#### In this issue:

NJSFWC Executive Committee Articles	2
District Vice President Articles	4
Community Service Program Articles	8
Standing Committee Articles	10

#### Special points of interest:

- State Dates
- Sample Proclamation
- Convention Service Project
- Web Supplement
- 1894 Society
- Yearbook Changes



**NJSFWC PRESIDENT-ELECT****Jan W. Hanson**

Congratulations to Randi Quilici, who has been selected as our LEADS candidate. Randi is the President of the Woman's Club of Brielle and will attend the GFWC Leadership Education And Development Seminar at the GFWC Convention in Austin, TX this June.

March is a good time to start evaluating what is making your club a vibrant organization and what is holding your club back from reaching its potential. The GFWC Leadership Newsletter outlined the results of the discussion on things that should be buried by our clubs. Look over the list below to determine if there are any things that your club might want to bury.

These include:

Useless meetings, long meetings > Repetitive projects > Same members doing tasks (leadership, reporting, etc.) > Negativity/Bullies > Old/Outdated projects > Duplicate information (reporting the same updates at meetings, in the newsletter, or in social media)

Below are some suggested new ideas you might want to consider:

✓ One focus per club ✓ Shared leadership ✓ Clubs working together on projects, committees working together on projects (Education and Home Life doing project together) ✓ Mentor new members ✓ Complete projects at the beginning of the meeting ✓ Meet at different locations (use social locations) ✓ Shorten Reports to 3 minutes ✓ Invite Spouses as guests

You might want to spend some time at a planning meeting brainstorming what your club might like to bury and what changes might make your club more energized.

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**NJSFWC SECOND VICE PRESIDENT****Shirley A. Holly**

Although you have just finished report writing, the documentation process continues. This way when you go to write reports next year, you will have all of the facts and figures at your fingertips. Chairmen received reports this year with no hours next to a project, yet they had a dollar amount. Even if your club only mailed a check to sponsor a delegate to GCI, there is time involved. It had to have been discussed at a meeting, voted on, completing the form, mailing the check, etc. There should never be a dollar amount listed with no hours. Continue to ask chairmen in charge of specific projects to keep track of the hours for every person on their committee. Remind everyone that whether they made a phone call, wrote letters, posted on social media, or walked door to door soliciting, all of that time counts and really adds up when totaled together.

While report writing is still fresh on your mind, please send this report writing chairman any issues or problems you encountered during the report writing process. Did you have a project you wanted to report but couldn't seem to find anywhere to report it? Any problems with figuring out dollar amounts? If you have any ideas to help improve the report writing process, please email your suggestions.

We can only improve the process with your input. Make your voice heard. Email me at [holly@njsfwc.org](mailto:holly@njsfwc.org)  
Thank you!

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**NJSFWC THIRD VICE PRESIDENT****Barbara McCloskey****Membership Matters!**

As you know, NJSFWC and GFWC provide a lot of information and tools to help your club and members.

Many members have no idea how much information is available to them, and sharing that information may encourage more members to take a chairman's position or, better yet, a board position.

Since the President receives the bulk of the information, it is important that they take the time to share and 'delegate' the information to others. Some clubs have a Federation Secretary who handles all the information that comes from Federation.

**NJSFWC THIRD VICE PRESIDENT (continued)**

Make copies or better yet, ask a member (or two) to print out the ALMANAC off the NJSFWC website, and pick out something to share with the members at a meeting, through an email or in the newsletter.

All materials, including the President's Manual, Supplements, contest forms and even the 'blue sheet' are on the NJSFWC website, so it is easy to access the information and delegate to others.

Share GFWC 'News & Notes' and the eConnection by email to members and always have an extra club newsletter available at club meetings for guests and prospective members.

CLUBWOMAN Magazine is a wonderful magazine and should be shared with club members. Why not have a drawing and offer a free subscription to a member or pay half of the subscription for one year?

The more information and materials you share with your club members, the more likely they will volunteer to chair a position or take a more active role in your club. Of course, you could always ask them!

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**NJSFWC TREASURER****Joyce J. Fredericks**

As most clubs are now aware, NJSFWC has changed their fiscal year beginning in 2019 from May 1-April 30 to July 1- June 30. A letter to all clubs UNDER the NJSFWC Group Letter of Determination has been sent with instructions.

However, this Officer has been asked some questions concerning what the deadline for the BLUE SHEET now that our fiscal year has changed. *The deadline for the BLUE SHEET REMAINS MAY 1, of each year.*

The deadline for renewal of dues in your club as stated in the bylaws should also remain the same. The reason for this has to do with sending in the NEW information on your BLUE SHEET as well as the number of members that will be on the BLUE SHEET. The information on the BLUE SHEET is due in May because the Office needs time to make up the list of club officers, annotate the number of members for the DUES BILL sent out in August of each year and get information together for NJSFWC's Yearbook which is due to the printer in June.

Therefore, the deadline for the BLUE SHEET must remain the same and the date in your club's Bylaws when dues are due should remain unchanged.

What will change is the date your club's books officially close for the fiscal year. If you are included in the NJSFWC Group Letter of Determination, please follow the instructions that were mailed to club presidents in February which explain the procedure. To recap: on April 30, 2019 you will close your books, capture the information for the 990 and submit your 990 Sept 15, 2019; then you will reopen your books for May 1 through June 30, 2019, close your books, capture the data for the 2-month period; and submit ANOTHER 990 on November 15, 2019.

What you will change in your Bylaws is your fiscal year. While reviewing them, you might want to take a look at the rest of your Bylaws and see if anything else needs changing. Remember to have a committee look at them, submit them to the Parliamentary Consultant to Clubs, Maureen Costello and upon her okay, send them to your members prior to voting on them.

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**NJSFWC FINANCIAL SECRETARY****Marie E. DiMatties**

Thank you to all the clubs that submitted a Fundraising Report Form. This Officer thoroughly enjoyed reviewing each and every one especially those that included narratives. You have done so many interesting and creative fundraising projects! Selecting the District and State winners will certainly be a challenge.

March is the time when clubs begin to disburse monies they have raised through their fundraising efforts. Please consider donating to the newly established Fellowship which has been created in memory of our beloved Carol J Sas. The Carol J. Sas Memorial Fellowship will be awarded annually to a graduate of Douglass College pursuing an advanced degree in a business field. The fellowship will be awarded based on merit. In addition, preference should be given to an applicant who volunteers her time and service in her community and who demonstrates leadership qualities.

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**COLLEGE DISTRICT****Christina Burlew**

Thank you to all the clubs that have completed and submitted their annual reports.

The **Franklin Woman's Club** has been hosting an annual Tricky Tray since 1994. Now in its 26<sup>th</sup> year, the March event includes a raffle of over 300 beautifully wrapped baskets and gift certificates, a 50/50 drawing, and a delicious dessert bar provided by club members and local businesses. The keys to the event's success include a dedicated chairperson, high member participation in all aspects of the planning and execution of the event, effective publicity and the generosity of the business community. A portion of the proceeds is used to fund the purchasing of select prizes and other expenses for the subsequent year's event.

Planning is year-round, but kicks into high gear in January with members reaching out to vendors (in person and through corporate channels) for prize donations and/or the purchase of advertising space in the event's program. Teams of members meet weekly to assemble and creatively wrap themed baskets so there is something for every taste. Publicity, which includes club website and Facebook announcements, emails to prior attendees, press releases, flyers, posts on Tricky Tray and other online bulletin boards, road signage and the ever-effective word of mouth, has resulted in a sold-out event for the past three years. (Online ticket ordering is available through the club's website).

The Franklin Woman's Club Tricky Tray provides an entertaining and affordable opportunity that has resulted in the club's ability to provide over \$60,000 in college scholarships to support the educational pursuits of young Franklin Township graduating high school seniors and other local charities.

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**EVENING MEMBERSHIP****Claire J. Hill**

**Woman's Club of Maplewood EMD** will be collecting new socks and toiletries for distribution at Essex County Count of Homeless at Branchbrook Park.

In March the **EMD of Arlington Woman's Club** will have Lynn Oelz, President of the Board of the Arlington Player's club speak to their club about Kearny's "hidden gem" - the beautiful red clay tennis courts which host the New Jersey state championships every year.

**Woman's Club of Ridgely Park EMD** has planned 4 spelling bees in the local elementary schools and will be preparing to plant 5 pinwheel gardens for PCA-NJ.

**Woman's Club of Merchantville EMD** is very busy planning Taste of Pennsauken, its major fund raiser, planned for April. Meet the Author Night is planned where local authors are showcased and will speak about their books and their writing process. There is a question and answer period and the authors sell and autograph their books.

The **Haddon Fortnightly EMD** is holding its Annual Luncheon Fashion Show and is planning Through a Woman's Eyes Art Show with the Haddonfield Middle and High Schools.

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**GARDEN DISTRICT****Patricia J. Dahl**

**GFWC Woman's League of Mount Holly** recently held a workshop with 11 members attending with a club member teaching members to mold clay hearts of various color combinations. They were then baked and were given to the Samaritan Hospice for comfort care to know someone cares.

Bunco Night fundraisers are becoming very popular. **Woman's Club of Pitman** is holding its' second of the year working with its local VFW. Members will teach you how to play, give away many prizes and have delicious food.

A local boutique, that has unique jewelry and accessories, works with **Marlton Woman's Club**. They donate 20% of their sales to the club, which in turn uses those proceeds to purchase raffle gifts for its upcoming Bingo. It is a win/win situation for the club.

## GARDEN DISTRICT (continued)

Two of our clubs, **Woman's Club of Edgewater Park** and **GFWC Women's Club of West Deptford** have been making fleece blankets for their local CASA of NJ affiliates. A total of approximate 50 blankets have been donated so far.

**Woman's Club of Woodstown** has no local library in its town so the club maintains a library in its local Laundromat. This project has been very successful for the community as well as the club. It is great community outreach.

**Woman's Club of Merchantville** members will visit a local elementary school for Read Across America. They will read and donate Dr. Seuss books to the preschool students, first, second and third graders.

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## HIGHLANDS DISTRICT

Judy Filippini

The winter months find the clubs of the Highlands very busy even though the weather is not always cooperative.

At the January District Council, clubs donated sweatshirts and sweatpants for CASA, the members heard a motivating presentation on membership and updates about convention.

It is Spelling Bee season in the Highlands. Club bees were held in January and on February 2 three winners from each bee competed at the District level. The following clubs held bees- **Woman's Club of the Denville- Rockaway Area, Long Valley Area Junior Woman's Club, Woman's Club of Parsippany-Troy Hills, Junior Woman's Club of Somerset Hills, Junior Woman's Club of Sparta and West Morris Junior Woman's Club.**

The members of **Blair Woman's Club** assembled "Traveler Treat Bags" to distribute at Truck Stops of America. On Valentine's Day they distributed Valentines for vets at Haven North.

As part of the Day of Service on Martin Luther King Day, the members of **Roxbury Woman's Club** made 70 pull toys for dogs and cats to be donated to St. Hubert's and 11<sup>th</sup> House Rescue. In addition, they collected towels, blankets and pillows for the animal shelters.

As part of Woman's History Month, **Woman's Club of Parsippany-Troy Hills** will present information at the Parsippany Library about their club, the NJSFWC and GFWC.

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## LIBERTY DISTRICT

Jane Mackesy

**Woman's Club of Arlington**, is joining with the **Arlington EMD** and **Junior Woman's Club of Arlington**, to co-sponsor a CASA information night for the public at the Kearny Public Library on March 5, at 7:00 PM. Club members are also putting the finishing touches on their annual Authors Event, which will be held on April 7th. This year's speaker will be Ed Lucas, author of 'Seeing Home, The Ed Lucas Story', and a sports writer for the NY Post and the Jersey Journal.

**The Women's Club of Caldwell** is celebrating Women's History Month with two programs. At their meeting on March 15<sup>th</sup>, Laurie Gaulke will share Alice Ramsey's story about being the first woman to drive across the country. On March 26<sup>th</sup>, at the Caldwell Library, they will be sponsoring Linda Kenyon's program about the life of Eleanor Roosevelt. Their Home Life Committee is collecting used eyeglasses for the Lions Organization, and the International Committee is planning an Operation Smile activity.

To celebrate Dr. Seuss' Birthday, **The Woman's Club of Upper Montclair** will read to children at St. Cassian's School. On the March 13th they will have a St. Patrick's Day luncheon with Shepherd's Pie.

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**PALISADES DISTRICT****Marie Sullivan**

Winter is in full swing in the Palisades District and while some people have opted for hibernation, many clubs are still very active.

The **Woman's Club of Leonia** thought of a great way to protect its club members: each member has completed a card containing emergency contact information (including a close family member's home, cell and business number) that is then kept on file by their President. If a member misses a meeting, or cannot be reached by phone or email, the emergency contact is called to ensure that she is safe and sound. What a wonderful and kind way to show our members that we care.

For the month of March, the club will host the Environmental Commission to speak about Recycling and Conservation to help members understand the full impact our efforts have on the environment.

**North Arlington Woman's Club** will receive a proclamation from the Mayor and Council proclaiming March: Youth Art Month. In honor of this proclamation the club is holding an Art Contest in the Middle School. Good Luck to all the participants.

**Woman's Club of Paramus** is hosting its annual Bunco Night on March 1. They do it a little differently than the typical 12-person groups. Teams of two are formed and then go around the whole room. This way all can participate! Lots of fun and prizes for \$15! A fun fundraiser!

The Palisades District Clubs have utilized many tips and new ideas that NJSFWC Third Vice President and State Membership Chairman Barbara McCloskey shared during Palisades Fall Council. Many clubs are reporting several new members and this is very exciting news!

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**RAMAPO DISTRICT****Barbara Cook**

With spring just around the corner, the clubs in the Ramapo District are making plans for their spring events. **Woman's Club of Ramsey** will have a plant sale on the Saturday after Mother's Day. They are planning their annual Strawberry Festival for the first week in June. They will also take part in the annual Ramsey Day.

**Saddle Brook Woman's Club** is busy signing up members to participate in the Saddle Brook Township Easter Bunny Lunch. They are also working on their big fund-raising event in April which is a Pocketbook Bingo and Tricky Tray with themed baskets. The club is planning to march in their town's Memorial Day Parade.

**Saddle River Valley Junior Woman's Club** is planning its annual Designer Handbag Bingo in June which sells out of 250 tickets in one day. The club holds many programs, such as yoga in the elementary school, to promote mental health. A Mother's Day Fashion show is scheduled at the Garden State Plaza with some members doing the modeling. They will have an installation dinner this month where they will install close to a dozen new members.

**Montville Township Woman's Club** is having a Treasure Box event the end of April, which is an indoor garage sale of new or gently used items. Members can get rid of all those Christmas gifts and other stuff they don't want. In May the members are bringing their own food and the club will have a Medium, which sounds like fun, to maybe look into the future.

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**SHORE DISTRICT****Gwendolyn M. Lewis**

Many clubs participated in Martin Luther King Day of Service. The **Allaire Woman's Club** made Fleece Blankets and donated them to the pediatric patients at the Robert Wood Johnson Hospital.

The **Woman's Club of Asbury Park** members made gift bags of toiletries for the Salvation Army. The club is continuing to collect sneakers for the Nike Grind Project.

**Belmar Woman's Club** members visited their own homebound members and members living in nursing homes.

**SHORE DISTRICT (continued)**

**Freehold Township Woman's Club** donated cookies to Open Door for Operation Candy/Cookie. They had a successful Lunch and Paint Party at Around the Corner Art Center

**Jersey Shore Woman's Club** had the District Conservation Chairman, Susan Meeker Paul, speak at their meeting. The club made over 20 blankets for CASA

**Woman's Club of Lacey's** Education Department is sponsoring a poster contest for third graders titled, My Favorite Book. Posters will be displayed at the local Shoprite as a reading promotion coinciding with Read Across America.

**Woman's Club of Manasquan** is busy recruiting new members and focused on repairs of the clubhouse. Home Life collected 458 coats for Jersey Cares, 704 eyeglasses for Eyes For The Needy and they distributed 75 cards and Candy Kisses for Meals on Wheels. At the February meeting all the members wore red and they collected money for American Heart Association.

**Woman's Club of Point Pleasant** made Valentine Baskets for Triton House, Keifer's Quarters and Valentine House. They are participating in Read Across America. The club is having a Woman's History display at the Point Pleasant Borough Library.

**Woman's Club of Spring Lake** members will be marching with their banner in the Belmar St. Patrick's Day Parade. During their March meeting they will have Souper Bowl with a special program, "Troubling Irish Woman", given by Irish Historian, Henry McNally.

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**SOUTHERN DISTRICT****Jane Snyder**

The **Woman's Club of Millville** has a very busy month planned for March. They will be celebrating Dr. Seuss' Birthday by bringing books for the homeless shelter to their luncheon. Their speaker will be the President of the Cumberland County Historical Society, whose presentation will be "Millville's Women of Interest".

Their Victorian Tea is upcoming, featuring a "traditional tea" with all of the wonderful tea sandwiches, scones and tasty desserts. Some members actually come in Victorian dress. The club chorus will entertain their members.

**Woman's Club of Absecon** will continue collecting sneakers for Soles4Soles. They will also continue to collect plastic bags (and film packaging) to support a local elementary school's participation in a recycling contest. Plans are in the making for April's Art Show for a local elementary school.

**Colony Club of Ocean City's** March meeting will include a reception to induct their new members. They will be collecting items of need for the Ocean City Humane Society. They are preparing for their biggest fundraiser, their annual Fashion Show. Everyone is invited to attend.

During March, **Women's Community Club of Cape May** will be celebrating "Women's History Month." The monthly charitable collection by their members was donated to Family Promise.

**Country Shore Woman's Club** has begun practices for their upcoming play, "The Adventures of the Wizard of Oz" performed the first weekend in March at the Elementary School.

**Woman's Club of Vineland** is participating in Bundles of Books by collecting books for newborns to 2 year olds and they add a note on how and why it is important to read to a child. A bundle is given to each newborn family at the hospital. Their biannual Antiques and Collectables Show will be held on March 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> at the club house.

**Ex-Presidents Club of the Southern District** brought its year to an end with a luncheon meeting at the Tuckahoe Inn.

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**THE ARTS/CREATIVE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM****Gail Kovacs-Felici**

Nellie Wright Allen inaugurated the unique idea of asking clubs to contribute one penny per member to establish a special fund. This money was used to purchase paintings by New Jersey artists, costing not less than \$100, for presentation to clubs doing the most to stimulate art, particularly among young people. She had the foresight to recognize that a penny-a-member could go far toward encouraging young artists by purchases of their works and began the "Penny Art Fund" in 1919! This type of fund was another "first" for NJSFWC and the GFWC Art Chairman saw that other states began to adopt the Penny Art Fund Project. The invested capital of this fund was, in 1928, renamed the Nellie Wright Allen fund. The Art History Scholarship began in 1954, with the interest from the Nellie Wright Allen Fund.

The Roebling-Boehm Scholarship Award was begun in 1960 as a scholarship for sculpting. In 1967 it became known as the New Jersey Fine Arts Scholarship Award.

Today, the Fine Art/Art History Scholarship is awarded to a Douglass alumna/ae who is pursuing an advanced degree in either Art History or any of the Fine Arts. Funds from the District Achievement Days as well as contributions from the clubs through the Continuing Funds form (due to NJSFWC Headquarters by April 1) ensures the continuation of the original scholarship presented by the NJSFWC.

This Chairman encourages members and clubs to attend their respective District Achievement Days and to consider a donation to the Fine Art/Art History Scholarship on the Continuing Funds form.

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**CONSERVATION COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM****Bonnie Dann****Using Native Plants in Your Garden**

No matter the size garden, patio, balcony, or window box, native plants will fit in anywhere.

Starting slowly is often the key to long-term success of any garden. Look in local nurseries for best prices on native plants. Each year this Chairman tries to add new native plants. Fill in bare spots or maybe start a new garden spot with all native plants. It's fun experimenting.

You might also want to plant native flowers that will attract bees and butterflies.

Examples of native flowers include columbine (pale yellow, purple, and red), woodland phlox, common milkweed (excellent for attracting monarch butterflies), bee balm, coneflowers (purple, deep yellow, red, and orange), and aster.

Soon you'll start to see one of the major benefits of growing native. Plants can feed birds for free! Hummingbirds visit to sip nectar from honeysuckle or columbine. Songbirds dine on seeds of coneflowers, Black-eyed Susans, and sunflowers (This Chairman leaves these flowers to supplement the birds). With different trees or native shrubs for berries, the birds can eat all year long. One advantage to attracting many nesting songbirds and hummingbirds is that they eat insects and help manage pests in your garden.

Is there an empty garden in your community that could use some sprucing up? Solicit local nurseries for donations of plants and flowers. Nurseries are more likely to donate plants if they know they will be used for planting at the local community center, town hall or local school. Once complete, put a sign in your garden with your club name. You just may attract a new member or two.

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**EDUCATION COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM****Ann Ribinsky Brown**

For 2019, Dr. Seuss' Birthday will be celebrated in our schools on Friday, March 1. Hopefully your club has plans to celebrate this happy day with the school children in your community. If you are looking for the labels for the Dr. Seuss books, they are at [GFWC.org](https://www.gfwc.org/gfwc-resources/) under resources D (<https://www.gfwc.org/gfwc-resources/>).

As you begin to think about how to distribute funds raised this year, consider talking to your middle school librarian about her needs. Many times, it is the school library funds that are cut from school budgets; often money is allotted for elementary and high schools, omitting the middle school.

## EDUCATION COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM (continued)

After the spring break is a good time to refresh teachers' supplies from September. Create 'Just in Case Kits' for the teacher's room. Use a box or basket with: lip balm, pain reliever, teacher snacks, adhesive notes, lint roller, gold stars, good pens, mouthwash, toothpaste/toothbrush, sewing kit, mints, nail file, band aids, tissues, hand cream, and whatever else you think a teacher may need or desire. Be sure to include your club's name and phone number.

Almost all clubs offer high school scholarships. Have you examined and/or updated the criteria for your scholarship? Often who gets the Woman's Club Scholarship is totally left up to the high school guidance department to select. Although we are all busy, perhaps this should be the year that you offer to work with the guidance department in re-examining your criteria and/or offer to be part of the selection committee.

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## HOME LIFE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

**Susan A. Chambers**

Tracy Chevalier, author of "Girl with a Pearl Earring" said, "March was an unpredictable month, when it was never clear what might happen. Warm days raised hopes until ice and grey skies shut over the town again."

And we've all experienced way too many major March snowstorms. Roads and sidewalks can be snow or ice covered and it may be difficult, if not impossible, for Meals-on-Wheels to deliver to the homebound. Your club can help out in this type of emergency situation by making "Blizzard Bags" that provide shelf-stable groceries for Meals-on-Wheels volunteers to distribute in advance of a weather emergency.

A typical emergency bag or box could contain: 2 cans of soup or stew; instant oatmeal packets; cheese crackers with peanut butter; canned tuna or chicken; an applesauce cup; milk box; a bottle of water; a granola bar; a box of raisins.

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## INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

**Karen Manneback**

### Hands on the World - Life Straw

Water is the basic building block of all life on this planet. Every living organism depends on it for survival.

- Imagine waking up tomorrow morning to find that you did not have access to water. What would your life look like, knowing that you might not get the water you needed to survive that day? Finding water would become your primary goal. Nothing else would matter.

Life Straws are water filters created to convert contaminated water into clean, safe drinking water. [HOW Global](http://www.howglobal.org) is passionate about empowering people to take control of the path of their own lives. This starts with dependable access to water. The main goal of [www.howglobal.org](http://www.howglobal.org) is to bring clean water to rural school communities. For them, LifeStraw is a great first step when meeting school villages where kids drink from mud holes.

Once LifeStraws are implemented [HOW \(Hands on the World\) Global](http://www.howglobal.org) has been moving on to create Green Hubs. [HOW Global](http://www.howglobal.org) methodology is entirely community-based, meaning that villages drive their own development. [HOW Global](http://www.howglobal.org) shapes these model villages, called Green Hubs, by guiding them through eight phases of development. At the heart of this model, village schools are used as a central source for clean, potable water for those who are in a state of need. Education becomes the cornerstone of the process, with workshops and trainings throughout the eight phases. In this way, the simple act of providing clean water leads to developing agricultural and food security, and ultimately to the creation of a fully functioning Green Hub capable of tackling the most critical issues associated with extreme poverty in a sustainable and holistic way. More information can be found at [www.howglobal.org](http://www.howglobal.org).

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## PUBLIC ISSUES COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

**Lisa Levin**

"Code Adam" is a missing-child safety program in the United States and Canada. It was originally created by Walmart stores in 1994. It is a program used when there is a missing child inside the store. Code Adam was created in memory of a 6-year-old Adam Walsh, who was tragically abducted from a Florida department store in 1981 and was found murdered sixteen days later. Code Adam is a program of the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, a nonprofit co-founded by Adam's parents, John and Reve Walsh.

Code Adam is used in tens of thousands of establishments across the nation. Some of the stores are Walmart, Target, Home Depot, Lowe's, Shop-Rite, K-Mart, and Office Maxx. Please work with your local Chamber of Commerce on this project. For more information please visit [www.missingkids.com](http://www.missingkids.com).

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**ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN****Jean Battaglia**

Prom season is approaching for high school students. With it comes excitement, celebrations and parties, and extra driving. No family or community wants to experience sadness or loss at any time, but this is becoming the time for reminders to reinforce responsible driving.

Start by talking to your own members at a meeting, allowing them to share any experiences they have had or what they do when they are in a car with someone who picks up the phone or starts texting. Then talk about your community.

Programs are held in schools, often sponsored by law enforcement agencies or local civic organizations. Your club could consider contacting these groups to determine if they need volunteers or other assistance. You may want to provide resources, as simple as text-free driving pledges to be signed by students and parents. Examples can be found at [www.itcanwait.com](http://www.itcanwait.com), sponsored by AT&T, or at [www.dmv.org/distracted-driving-pledge](http://www.dmv.org/distracted-driving-pledge). The latter site is privately owned, not operated by any government agency. You could provide thumb bands to be worn as a reminder not to text and drive. They can be purchased at [www.textingthumbbands.com](http://www.textingthumbbands.com) or in bulk at Amazon.com. Any step taken, however small, may be the one that saves a life.

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**COMMUNICATIONS****Mary Lu Henry*****Your Questions Answered!***

Over the past couple of weeks, this Chairman has been approached by clubs with questions that she thought would be helpful to answer through the ALMANAC, just in case other clubs have the same questions.

*We have difficulty getting our press releases and fundraiser promotions printed in our local newspaper. What should we do?*

The first thing to do is to establish a relationship with the editor and staff at the newspaper. The president and communications chairman should make an appointment with the editor or features reporter. Many clubs are 50+ years in existence and this should be conveyed to them. Let them know the impact your club has had on the community for all of those years. Give them your club profile, club history and bring some club newsletters or scrapbooks to show them. Bring a press book and show them how important it is to have your activities displayed this way. They may be interested in writing an article about you. Reach out and communicate with your local news service, and in turn, they will communicate your club's story.

Note Regarding the Communications Contests: *I had a few questions regarding the classifications for the different contests.*

As the entries are submitted, this Chairman will go through them thoroughly and if it looks like the entry is in the wrong classification, she will place it in the correct classification. No entry will be disqualified for mistakenly submitted in the wrong classification. This Chairman understands this is tricky. She looks forward to receiving your entries.

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**CONVENTION****Darlene R. Grady**

On Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup> a District Lunch is planned, so pre-order a box lunch and bring it along to hear the District Vice Presidents report. Each DVP selected a color to represent her District, so this promises to be a colorful event. See the order form in the February ALMANAC for the chosen colors. If you ordered a tee shirt by the February 25<sup>th</sup> deadline, your tee will be available for pick-up at your District Spring Conference. You are welcome to wear something you own in your district color, it's a casual event, so the tee would be perfect. Register early as there are limited seats.

Let me tell you about the events scheduled for Tuesday, May 7<sup>th</sup>. The Business Session starts that day and may include voting on proposed Resolutions, proposed changes to the Bylaws and awards for the Best Reported Work in the state.

## CONVENTION (continued)

After the business meeting, five Lunch & Learns are being offered from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m.

- Book Discussion; "The Address" by Fiona Davis led by Joyce Dreger
- A financial retirement seminar by Wealthguard Financial
- Genealogy workshop "Ask Granny", presented by Jane Mackesy, Liberty DVP
- A presentation on a non-profit Ranch Hope, that provides Behavioral Healthcare and transitional living programs to youth at risk in NJ
- A Done in One craft class on lavender, presented by Triple Oaks Nursery and Herb Gardens.

Remember to pre-order your box lunch. As in previous years, members are required to pre-register for all workshops and, this year, attendees must show their registration ticket for admittance.

Stop in the afternoon to visit the vendor room, open till 5:00 p.m. There will be some new and returning vendors, and for all things Federation, stop at the Federation Sales table. This year the Grand Circle Travel Company table will have the details about upcoming Federation trips.

There is also time now to visit the Federation exhibits; Arts Creative, Conservation and Communications, to view the entries entered by fellow clubwomen. The exhibit room opens at noon on Tuesday.

Then it's time to head to the Theatre for a 2:30 p.m. start of the annual Arts Performing show presented by District clubwomen, selected from across the state. So, come and applaud, the best form of support.

The District photo of club presidents will be taken this evening, check your District reporting time and be sure to arrive 10 minutes early. Enjoy the social hour, open to all members with a cash bar open through this evening's banquet. Watch as the Presidents process in, as we honor Club Presidents and EMD Chairmen tonight.

The theme for this evening is "125 Years of Purpose and Passion". The Cecilia Gaines Holland Award will also be presented this evening.

Once again, a service project is planned that will benefit the Community Food Bank of New Jersey. A "wish list" of items requested was included in the CALL. Please include a contribution in your luggage for this worthwhile organization fighting hunger in our communities.

Wait, that's not all, Convention continues, on Wednesday, May 8<sup>th</sup>. There are four Workshops being offered this morning at 8:00 a.m., before the start of the closing business session.

- ❖ The President's Roundtable presented by First VP, Jan Hanson.
- ❖ Membership, retaining members presented by Third VP, Barbara McCloskey.
- ❖ Treasurer – What's new? presented by Treasurer, Joyce Fredericks and Marie DiMatties along with Paul Johnson, Investigator from NJ Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission.
- ❖ Legislation-"Recognize the Red" conducted by Legislation & Resolutions Chairman Carole Speechley.

The business session includes the In Memoriam and the induction of clubwomen to the Honor Roll and Order of the Lily. A guest speaker will share the details of the future national monument in her presentation, Turning Point Suffragist Memorial.

This year's Convention is Monday, May 6-8, 2019 at the Golden Nugget Atlantic City. The Convention theme "Celebrate a Proud Legacy" pays tribute to the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs of GFWC. There's a full agenda planned, join in the Federation Friendship events scheduled to complete the mission to Enlighten, Educate and Entertain. Watch the deadlines and be sure to register to have all that a Convention experience can offer.

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**CREDENTIALS AND REGISTRATION****Rosemarie Saviello**

By this time, all Club Presidents, Past State Presidents, NJSFWC Board of Directors, etc. should have received the "CALL to Convention" that was mailed in early February. Please review the CALL package carefully and return all registration forms as soon as possible.

Just as a reminder, the registration form should be mailed with ONE CLUB CHECK covering the amount due for your club member's registration and meals. The check should be made payable to NJSFWC Convention, earmarked Credentials and Registration and sent to Rosemarie Saviello, 325 Jacksonville Rd., Lincoln Park, NJ 07035 postmarked no later than March 29, 2019. After that date there is a late fee. No registrations will be accepted postmarked after April 6, 2019.

If you are planning to attend the "District Lunch" on Monday, you will need a ticket that will be with your registration package when you get to Convention. A ticket will also be necessary to attend the workshops.

Now is the time to make your hotel reservations. You must call Golden Nugget Atlantic City directly, not this Chairman. Golden Nugget can be reached at 800-777-8477, option 3 and give them the code AFWCLB9. You must register before April 26<sup>th</sup> to receive the discounted rate.

If you have any questions about registering for the conference or meals, please call this Chairman, 973-263-1133.

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**GFWC SIGNATURE PROJECT:  
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION****Ora M. Kokol**

Spring is right around the corner and so is Easter! Here is another easy and fun project for your club members – fill Plastic Easter Eggs!! They can contain candy, treats, and perhaps even a small toy! Let's also not forget the older child. A few suggestions for a girl are pony tail bands, small bottles of nail polish, small sample size tube of lipstick; for a boy a tube of chap stick, a pair of socks (the larger size egg), etc. Have a little "Done In One" project at your meeting by filling these eggs for the children at your local woman's shelter, and be sure to deliver them before April 21<sup>st</sup>.

How excited the children will be to have goodies in an Easter Basket and hopefully enough extra filled eggs to have an Easter Egg Hunt for the children. A club reported doing this last year, and the children loved it - so it will now be an annual event.

This is just another small way to help these children have a happy and fun day!

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**GIRLS' CAREER INSTITUTE****M. Jill McDonald**

Registration Forms for Girls' Career Institute **DELEGATES** and **ALTERNATES** were due March 1. If there are issues, please contact the Director immediately. Most problems can be resolved with good communications.

**DELEGATE** Packets are now being prepared. They will be sent in large brown NJSFWC mailing envelopes by April 1. Each packet will have a neon sticker on it to alert delegates and parents of the contents and the urgency to open and review. **ALTERNATES do not** receive a packet unless and until they are moved into a delegate slot. **IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT THE CLUB GCI COORDINATOR STAYS IN TOUCH WITH THEIR DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES WHETHER THE CLUB MADE THE SELECTION OR THE SCHOOL.** Please check with your delegate to be sure she has received her packet by April 15. Notify this Director immediately if she has not!

District Vice Presidents will receive a list of every delegate and alternate and each one's contact information at the April 9 Board meeting. They will prepare and mail District Girls' Career Institute Orientation Reception invitations to every Delegate and Alternate. The receptions will be held between May 13 and 24 in each District. Parents and guardians are invited to attend the receptions with their daughters.

It is very important that every invitee respond to her invitation to ensure that adequate materials, refreshments, and seating will be available at the sites. If a girl cannot attend her District function, we will try to direct her to one at a nearby District or send her printed information, if necessary.

## GIRLS' CAREER INSTITUTE (continued)

These receptions are vital to helping the girls understand what to expect, get their questions answered and meet other girls from their District who will be attending. All club presidents will also receive invitations whether or not their club is sending delegates. These receptions are an excellent way for a club to understand more about GCI. Please RSVP.

It is never too late for a club to donate supplies, water, and snacks to the total GCI effort. We are anxious to hear from club members interested in being housemothers or per diem volunteer staff for Girls' Career Institute June 3-6, 2019 at Douglass Residential College on the Rutgers campus in New Brunswick. We are seeking a back-up Registered Nurse and housemother in case our anticipated staff cannot be available.

## HEADQUARTERS

Joanne Mangels

### *Save This Date .... Calling all NJSFWC Clubwomen!*

Saturday, March 30 – **NJSFWC SPRING OPEN HOUSE** from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Celebrate our 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, refreshments, Headquarters tour, and entertainment.

Why not make this a club outing? Introduce your new members to the rich history of NJSFWC! Have a friend on the fence about joining your club? Bring her along!

**Reservations requested to: [mangels@njsfwc.org](mailto:mangels@njsfwc.org) or leave a message at 732-548-6874.**

**1894 Society** – This will be the last chance to get your or your club's name on an Achievement Day Certificate for joining the 1894 Society. Form is enclosed.

## HISTORIAN

Carol A. Niemiec

The month of March is designated as "Women's History Month", but how did this recognition come about? In the United States, Women's History Month traces its roots to the first International Women's Day in 1911. From then, in 1978, the school district of Sonoma California took part in Women's History Week, designated around the week of March 8, International Women's Day. In 1979, a 15-day conference about women's history was held at Sarah Lawrence College, in Yonkers, New York, and in 1980, President Jimmy Carter issued a Presidential Proclamation declaring the week of March 8, 1980, as National Women's History Week. In 1987, Congress passed Publication 100-9 which designated the month of March as Women's History Month. Between 1988- 1994, Congress passed additional resolutions requesting and authorizing the President to proclaim March of each year as Women's History Month and since 1988, US Presidents have issued annual Proclamations.

Now, some more history about NJSFWC Past Presidents. The thirteenth President of the NJSFWC was **Sara Proal**, 1920-1923, from the WC of Nutley. World War I was over, and clubs organized with one another to promote social welfare with 34 committees aiding 51 institutions. The NJ Legislature passed the Port Authority Bill, actively supported by clubwomen. This Bill concerned the issue of food raised in NJ and shipped to NY, then back to NJ, with deterioration of quality and increase in price. The NJ Federation joined the Port Authority to secure better distribution of food, better pricing and quality. The NJ Federation was also responsible for the passage of the Pure Milk and Pure Ice Cream Bills. The highlight of Mrs. Proal's administration was the first graduation held at the NJ College for Women in 1922.

**Etta Gould Lee** was the fourteenth President of the Federation, 1923-1926, from the WC of Maplewood. After many fundraising events started in her administration, \$100,000 was raised in five years, and a new Music Building was dedicated at the NJ College for Women in 1928, the tenth anniversary of the College. The idea of "Junior" Women's Clubs was explored, and by the end of Mrs. Lee's administration, 61 Junior Clubs were organized. Outdoor beautification was of great interest to clubwomen, and working through the Art Department, 53 clubs took part in the "Protest by Letter Campaign", against **Sign Boards**, better known as **Billboards**, destroying the beauty of the country. As a result of a massive letter writing campaign by clubwomen, 25 firms agreed to stop advertising along rural highways and in residential districts, another victory for the NJSFWC.

**HONORS****Laura C. Badger**

**March 22<sup>nd</sup>** is the deadline for the Women of Achievement Patron donations. The form was in the January 2019 ALMANAC. These donations are for a one-time scholarship for a non-traditional student enrolled at Douglass Residential College. Mail the form with your donation to NJSFWC Headquarters.

**April 1<sup>st</sup>** is just a few weeks from now! That's the deadline for submitting enrollments for the Honor Roll and the Order of the Lily to be recognized at the Annual Convention Wednesday business session on May 8<sup>th</sup>.

Forms for submitting each, along with instructional suggestions and the pin/charm order form were in the January 2019 ALMANAC. The Honor Roll and Order of the Lily forms must be submitted to Headquarters by the deadline.

Any submittals received after the April 1<sup>st</sup> deadline will be filed for the 2020 Convention presentation.

On the [NJSFWC.org](http://NJSFWC.org) website, under **MATERIALS, HONORS, AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENT FORMS** you will find all the information and forms you will need to submit for the Honor Roll and the Order of the Lily, and become a Patron Subscription donor.

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**LEGISLATION/RESOLUTIONS****Carole B. Speechley**

Last Fall members who attended the Middle Atlantic Region (MAR) Conference in Albany, NY, voted on the two pieces of legislation they wanted GFWC to work on as part of the RECOGNIZE THE RED campaign. After all of the regions voted, the votes were counted and Miranda's Law and the 3D Printed Gun Safety Act were the winners.

"Miranda's Law" aims to keep unsafe school bus drivers off the road. This legislation would require real-time alerts for every school district across the country and trigger driver infractions to a database monitored by the federal Department of Transportation. Under current federal regulations, employers of school bus drivers are ONLY required to check their employee's driving history records annually so it could be up to 364 days before a school district or motor carrier obtains that information. Miranda Vargas, for whom the law was named, was a fifth grader from Clifton, NJ, who was tragically killed in a school bus crash when the driver, who missed the exit, attempted to make an illegal U-turn. This happened just last year and made the news across the entire state.

The 3D Printed Gun Safety Act would prohibit the publication of 3D printer plans for the printing of firearms. Because 3D printing allows individuals to make their own firearms out of plastic, they may be able to evade detection by metal detectors at security checkpoints, increasing the risk that a firearm will be used to commit violence on an airplane or other area where people congregate.

Go to the GFWC Legislative Action Center to help get this and other important legislation passed. If you already did this in response to the January Bulletin, thank YOU for being part of the Recognize the Red campaign.

**And, if you haven't joined the GFWC Legislative Action Center, why not? What we do matters.**

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**SPECIAL STATE PROJECT****Lynn Webb**

April is the time to ask your Mayor to sign a Proclamation for Child Abuse Prevention Month. A sample document will be on the NJSFWC website under Special State Project as well as included in this ALMANAC. Our communities need to hear our proclamations to protect children from abuse and recognize there are organizations, like CASA of NJ, to be their voice.

Plan to attend a special program, "How to become an Effective CASA Ambassador" on Saturday, April 13, 2019, at 10 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. This training will be held at Millville Woman's Club clubhouse, 300 E Street, Millville, NJ 08332. This will be a good time to bring your questions for CASA of NJ, and learn how to promote and educate our communities. Registration is required and the deadline is April 1, 2019. If you are interested, sign up for the training by sending an e-mail to: Lynn Webb [webb@njsfwc.org](mailto:webb@njsfwc.org).

This Chairman noticed that there are clubs who are welcoming other clubs or organizations to learn how to make the no sew blankets. What a wonderful way to work together and donate blankets to local CASA affiliates!

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**WEBMASTER****Denise Hosier**

**Check Out Our New Website!** If you haven't already seen it, our new NJSFWC website is live now! It is a modern site with automatic reformatting for mobile devices and security designed to keep hackers out. Yet it still has all the same great MATERIALS that you can use to guide your club as you plan your community service work.

**No More Logging In!** Now you have access to all our MATERIALS without any messy user ID and password requirements. There's no excuse not to check out all the resources that are available to you on our website.

**Revised Web Communications Supplement:** Because of the many changes to the website and our procedures, the Supplement was sadly out of date. It has been updated and is included in this ALMANAC.

**WOMEN WHO REACH FOR THE STARS CHAIRMAN****Linda F. Babeuf**

If you attended your February 2019 club meeting, you should have received a letter from the State President Mary E. Wolfe. The letter is an appeal to **EVERY** member of this Federation to consider supporting the Shining Future Endowment Campaign.

You are being asked to support this campaign at a level that fits in to your history with the Federation, your appreciation of the work NJSFWC has done for the last 125 years in communities around the state as well as your giving budget/plan. There is no magic number, no amount any member is expected to give.

The hope is that, as a member of NJSFWC, your pride in membership and its' vast accomplishments will guide you to give as much as you can. Your donation will help ensure the future of the Federation both for the communities we support and for future women who will benefit from being a member as many of us have. If you have any questions, please contact this Chairman at [babeuf@njsfwc.org](mailto:babeuf@njsfwc.org) or at 732-687-3443.

The Committee members continue to offer each club the opportunity to have a speaker come to your club to talk about the accomplishments of NJSFWC over the past 125years. It can be a valuable tool for your members, especially newer members to help them understand the amazing accomplishments of the women of New Jersey.

Why not consider having a speaker and include the public so that your community, your neighbors have a better understanding of who you are and what your club is a part of. It could also be a membership recruitment tool!

If you would like a speaker to come to your club, please contact Joyce Fredericks, NJSFWC Treasurer and Shining Future Endowment Campaign committee member at [fredericks@njsfwc.org](mailto:fredericks@njsfwc.org) to schedule a date.

**PARLIAMENTARY CONSULTANT TO CLUBS****Maureen K. Costello**

In the February ALMANAC article, this Consultant listed parliamentary terms you may run into. She will continue this month:

- DEBATE:** To discuss a question by considering arguments on both sides.
- DELEGATE:** A person representing a group usually empowered to vote.
- DIVISION:** If a motion includes several independent resolutions, it must be divided on the demand of a single member who calls for "division" so that the resolutions may be acted upon separately.
- DUES:** Specified amount of money to be paid into the club treasury annually.
- EX OFFICIO:** by virtue of office or official position.
- LAY ON THE TABLE:** To put aside a motion or report, usually for consideration at a future meeting.
- MAIN MOTION:** the motion, which introduces a subject to the assembly.
- MAJORITY:** more than half the votes cast, or more than half the members present.
- MINORITY:** Less than half the votes cast, or less than half the members present.
- MINUTES:** The official record of the proceedings at a meeting.
- MOTION:** A formal proposal made in a deliberative assembly looking for action.
- MOVE:** To make a motion.
- NOMINATE:** To name a candidate for election or appointment; to propose for office.
- ORDERS OF THE DAY:** If business is not taken up in the proper order, or if any subject or motion has been assigned for a particular day or hour and is not taken up a member may call for the Orders of the Day.
- OBTAIN THE FLOOR:** Recognition for the right to speak.

.....to be continued