President's Message—Jan W. Hanson

As summer winds down we usually look forward to our club activities and reconnecting with our members as our calendars fill up. This September things will look different, but we are up to the challenge of helping our communities within the limitations of staying safe. How we go about doing things may look different, but we can still get the job done.

Congratulations to Immediate Past President Mary Wolfe! She and her board preserved our legacy as they paved the way for a shining future. Many things were accomplished and we were sad that we could not show our appreciation at the 2020 Convention for all that was achieved. The last few weeks were especially difficult, but Mary was overcome each obstacle that came her way and for that we are especially grateful. Be sure to read Mary's letter to clubs in this ALMANAC.

Over the summer, your state Chairman were busy updating the Supplements. Please take time to review them. You might find some new ideas and projects that you can do while we social distance. The report forms have also been updated and you should receive them shortly. There will now be three membership categories for judging, 4-24, 25-60 and 60+, however, you still have to submit a report with a narrative to be eligible to win.

The Summer Luncheon became the Autumn Luncheon and then became the Spring Luncheon to be held on May 25, 2021. This is just an example of how we have to adapt to Covid-19. Thank you to Vivien Finn for keeping up with the changes and storing the baskets that we have already received.

I hope you will be able to join us at our State Fall Conference Webinar on October 19, 2020. Thank you to Chairman Judy Filippini as she has had to adjust from an in-person event to an online event. Registration information is included in this ALMANAC. It is disappointing to have to change this event, however, there are some positive benefits to participating from home.

We had such a good time at the Zoom June District Councils we are going to use the same format for the September District Councils. Many of the spaces we would normally use are not available and it is difficult to social distance. This format does allow members who cannot physically attend the council to participate.

Thank you to Patricia Dahl, Special State Project Chairman and to all the clubs who purchased items on the Operation Chillout Registry. We were responsible for purchasing 60-70% of the items. Your notecards have been well received and this is an ongoing project. Find out more about this organization at State Fall Conference.

This President was looking forward to meeting with clubwomen and sharing in your celebrations and I hope that eventually we will get there. In the meantime, wear your masks and continue to physically distant, but let's not socially distance. Let's stay connected, share our ideas, take care of our members and our community. Let's continue to "Let Our Voices Soar". Welcome back.

In Federation Friendship,

Jan
Dear Federation Friends,

The 2018-2020 NJSFWC administration is now in the books. I’d like to express my appreciation to the club members for their support and all of the kindnesses extended to me. Thank you for your notes, emails and phone calls of congratulations, as well as commiseration over the unfortunate cancellation of so many of our traditional year-end events.

Although the last six months have been challenging for us, staying at home has given me the opportunity to reflect on the past two years. Many of you know that I’m a compulsive list maker and I’d like to share with you a list of memories that I will cherish from my time as NJSFWC President.

- Unveiling our vibrant, new, user-friendly website
- Celebrating Our Proud Legacy at the 2019 Convention
- Appearing on the Della Crews Show to promote NJSFWC
- Reaching a record number of 2,318 filled stockings donated in our 10th year of Operation Christmas Stocking
- Recognizing our 125th Anniversary with a Day of Service, and being blown away by the generosity of our members who donated items valued at $44,106 to help college students who have aged out of the foster care system
- Raising more than $88,000 through the Shining Future Endowment Campaign to help secure the future of NJSFWC and its mission
- Welcoming the attendees to Girls Career Institute in 2019 and knowing they were in for a life changing experience
- Having our members embrace the Special State Project Court, Appointed Special Advocates of NJ and, in addition to funds raised and in-kind donations, having 26 people become trained advocates as a direct result of our raising public awareness of the organization
- NJSFWC members – despite a worldwide pandemic - finding ways to help others by making masks; providing meals for health care workers; saying thank you to police, health care and other essential workers; and a variety of other projects, while sheltering at home.

These memories, and many more, warm my heart and make me so proud to have served as your 56th President!

Love,

Mary

55 Labor Center Way, New Brunswick, New Jersey 08901
732-249-5474/3485 fax 732-249-8822 www.njsfwc.org
NJSFWC FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Shirley A. Holly

The First Vice President serves as the Leadership Chairman. Here is an important tip for leaders in these uncertain times.

With the COVID-19 pandemic evolving and causing concerns worldwide, every club across New Jersey is trying to navigate the current situation and leverage their club and their members to provide community support. Club members have questions about how to position, adapt, and optimize their club projects to be the most effective in times of uncertainty. Communication is a crucial component of a club leader in today's world.

Club members are looking to their officers to provide information about opportunities, club and organizational changes, and current needs. COVID-19 has caused uncertainty for many and effective communication should be a top priority. Try having a general “open mike” meeting where members can air their fears regarding the virus …. … when they find out that everyone is feeling the same way, those fears may be lessened. Getting club members to talk about their fears regarding any volunteer effort that the club may undertake, needs to be discussed and decided on by the members before any club commitment regarding their involvement is made. Now, it is an important time to be transparent with club members and remind them that their contribution will go a long way in providing support and relief to those affected in their communities.

Communication with club members should:

- Provide information about how they can help. Everyone wants to feel useful and that their contributions matter.
- Provide instruction/flexibility. Club members will have different levels of comfort during this time - be flexible.
- Offer information about other ways they can volunteer their precious time to help whenever possible.
- Be consistent and transparent.
  - Struggling to keep your club members engaged? Before you take any drastic measures, know that communication makes a world of difference.
  - In any good relationship, open communication is key. Failing to keep club members in-the-loop leads to frustration, which ultimately leads to a disengaged club member.

How well you communicate with club members can play a huge role in retention rates. Just think about it, a member who constantly feels left out in the dark probably isn’t going to feel like her time is being valued. Remember, we are all in this together.

NJSFWC SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Barbara McCloskey

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 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!
SECOND VICE PRESIDENT (continued)

A Report Writing form is included in this ALMANAC.

Report Writing Tips:

HEALTH AND WELLNESS (formerly Home Life) and COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT AND OUTREACH (CEO) (formerly Public Issues) have the biggest changes in realignment. It may look complicated, but when you look at it, it makes sense. For example, if you made or sent food to hospitals or first responders for Covid-19 it will go under Health and Wellness.

If you sent food to the local food bank it will go under Civic Engagement and Outreach. One helps the medical community and one helps the community. Civic Engagement and Outreach will now get projects from Health and Wellness that help the community-food banks, the underserved community, wish trees. Projects already in Public Issues will stay in Civic Engagement and Outreach except for first aid and CPR classes that will go in Health and Wellness.

The key question to ask in deciding where something goes is “What is the purpose of this project?” Based on your answer there may be more than one place to put a project and that is okay. The important thing to remember is that you can divide a project up into more than one program. However, you can only report the information once. More information will be coming out in the months to come.

Remember, it is important to keep a record of what your club is doing!

NJSFWC THIRD VICE PRESIDENT

Susan Chambers

Does your daughter belong to a Federated Woman’s Club? Did your mother? Or your grandmother? Then you are a MULTI-GEN MEMBER! This Officer would like to find all members who have a family tradition of service to their communities. Please email this Officer at chambers@njsfwc.org with a brief description of your family relationship with NJSFWC or GFWC. Or call for a chat at 201-265-6282. Was your grandmother a charter member of your club? Did your mother serve as President? Has your daughter chaired your club’s Special State Project effort? Let me know the story of your family and you in Federation. Let’s honor the tradition of service. Who knows? If we have enough response, maybe we’ll create a pin to acknowledge what your family has done! Presidents, please ask your members to contribute to this effort.

And remember to please check up on your members during the continuing pandemic response. A quick phone call or email to your members can brighten someone’s day and ensure them that we’re all in this together

NJSFWC TREASURER

Linda Babeuf

The first week of September all Presidents should receive a mailing from NJSFWC Headquarters. The envelope will contain:

- The Dues Bill for the 2020-2021 club year. Your club dues are due to Headquarters on or before November 1, 2020. If your club submitted the blue sheet on time, the bill will reflect the number of members your club reported. If the blue sheet was not received on time, your club will be billed for and is responsible for the number of members reported in the 2019-2020 club year regardless of your current membership.
- The Charitable Registration Form for 2020, which is due October 1, 2020 and the cost is $15.00.
- The Continuing Funds Form for 2021 which is due April 1, 2021. Along with the Continuing Funds Form is the Explanation of the Continuing Funds.

Although the information is sent to the Club President, a copy should be made for her files. The President should record the deadlines and give the envelope of forms to the Club Treasurer. This will enable the Treasurer to have the correct information she needs to ensure that the checks are sent to Headquarters by the deadlines. As always, if you have any questions please call me at 732-687-3443 or email me at babeuf@njsfwc.org.
NJSFWC FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Christina Burlew

Thank you to all the clubs that either emailed or mailed in their 990N confirmation that states "You have successfully filed your 990" contacted this officer with questions about filing their 990N.

If your club is under the umbrella of NJSFWC, and you have not filed your 990N electronically, please do so by September 30. Send a copy to Chris Burlew, Financial Secretary, NJSFC Headquarters, 55 Labor Center Way, New Brunswick, NJ 08901. Remember to print the screen before logging off and keep a copy for your club's files.

While there is no penalty assessment for filing late, organizations that fail to file for three consecutive years will automatically lose their tax-exempt status. Revocation of the organization's tax-exempt status will happen on the filing due date of the third consecutively-missed year. In order to avoid spending extra money and time to be reinstated, do not miss the deadline.

Unfortunately, the change in our fiscal year did cause some confusion. Some clubs submitted their Charitable Registration form with the State of New Jersey in place of their 990N confirmation. All Presidents will be receiving a mailing that will contain several forms. One of these forms is the Charitable Registration Form and should be sent to Headquarters along with a check earmarked Charitable Registration for $15. If your club's income is more than $15,000 and you raise money from the public, this filing is necessary. It applies to all clubs whether or not your club is a 501c3 or not. If your club has over $25,000 in gross income, you have to file with the state.

COLLEGE DISTRICT

Mary Lou Bak

The Club Presidents and members of the College District made the historic move to a virtual format of the June District Council on Zoom. They welcomed the opportunity to hear about the new Special State Project, Operation Chillout, and proudly learned about the many report and member awards earned in the College District.

Many clubs were able to adapt their service projects during the Pandemic lockdown to the pressing needs of their communities. They donated to food banks and helped supply organizations and front-line workers with donations for PPE and goods such as homemade masks and personal items. The Woman's Literary Club of Bound Brook bought snacks for the Bound Brook Police. Cedar Wood Woman's Club donated to the Franklin Animal Shelter and has prepared business cards to be sent to Operation Chillout. The Woman's Club of Cranberry is planning to donate gift cards and baskets to Family Support Services of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst.

Advocacy projects remain a priority for clubs. The Legislation Committee of the Franklin Woman's Club is exploring whether to act in support of the national legislative effort to expand Vote-by-Mail options. The Greater Brunswick Area Woman's Club will continue its support of Women Aware, which promotes the safety and self-sufficiency of individuals and families affected by domestic violence. When the lifting of Pandemic restrictions allows, the club will resume monthly "unbirthday" parties for any clients celebrating birthdays with delivery of cakes, cupcakes, candles, and napkins to celebrate.

As a result of the Pandemic, many clubs are looking at alternative meeting places for the Fall in case they will not be allowed to use their normal locations. Some tentative plans may welcome back members with outdoor gatherings.

GARDEN DISTRICT

Jill McDonald

Our world is very topsy turvy, but the NJSFWC club women of the Garden District continue to be strong, caring, giving individuals. They have stayed safe through the wearing of masks and social distancing while finding innovative ways to serve their communities. Our June Council meeting allowed all 64 in attendance to learn about what is working for other clubs.

Mask and head cover making has been a very popular project. Some members donate fabric and elastic, others cut and sew, and still others deliver the supplies between workers and then to the destination site.
GARDEN DISTRICT (continued)

Collections of food and toiletries for local food pantries, Cathedral Kitchen and Ronald McDonald House have dominated the efforts of several clubs. Local lunch programs, hospital workers, police and fire staffs have benefited from the culinary skills of members. Elder care facilities have received treats, recreational materials and cards of encouragement.

The Woman’s Club of Wenvonah established a Farmers Market in a town park. Now a weekly event, the market provides an outlet for local products while embracing COVID-19 safety procedures. Order ahead with curbside pickup and actual order delivery to town residents were special features. Members also provided recognition and a gift to every local graduate.

A member of the Woman’s Club of Woodstown started a Woodstown-Pilesgrove Needs Group on Facebook. Over 1200 residents are participating. The group keeps readers informed about community happenings, places to buy hard to find items, menus of local restaurants that offer order/curbside pickup service and a variety of recommendations for plumbers, electricians, and food pantry information.

The GFWC Woman’s League of Mt. Holly turned a “before pandemic” project of collecting small change from members to provide one little red wagon to St. Jude’s into a major success. With donations from club members, relatives and the community grew into a donation of eight wagons.

HIGHLANDS DISTRICT

Many Highlands Clubs’ projects and plans, like those of the rest of New Jersey’s Clubs, have been put on hold as a result of the Coronavirus. But that hasn’t stopped these Clubwomen from helping their communities through this difficult time.

Clubs supported hospital workers, first responders, essential workers, and those hardest hit by the pandemic.

Blair Woman’s Club donated over $300 worth of crocs to hospital workers.

Woman’s Club of the Denville-Rockaway Area made masks, and sent 10 dozen bagels to hospital staff.

Junior Woman’s Club of Jefferson Township donated to the “Power Up” Program, which helps first responders.

Long Valley Juniorettes partnered with Panera Bread and their food pantry and collected four carloads of food for COVID-19 victims and families out of work.

Woman’s Club of Parsippany-Troy Hills made almost 900 ear savers for hospital workers and first responders. Ear savers are made from yarn or fabric and are used to remove pressure and friction when wearing a mask. In addition, they donated food, money and gift cards to their ambulance squad and essential workers.

Roxbury Woman’s Club donated $100-worth of Girl Scout cookies to local police, and made or collected several thousand masks to donate.

Junior Woman’s Club of Sparta made posters and signs of support for essential workers.

Sparta Woman’s Club made masks and sent thank you notes to first responders.

Thursday Morning Club donated food and supplies to essential workers and their ambulance squad.

Vernon Township Woman’s Club swung into action when a local company that had given all of its masks to first responders was in danger of having to close if they couldn’t get more for their employees. The club’s sewing group, “Sewing Angels,” was able to make 100 masks in four days.

Washington Woman’s Club made masks for hospital staff and first responders.
LIBERTY DISTRICT

The summer of 2020 is one we will not soon forget. This pandemic has not stopped the Liberty District clubs from doing great work and planning for the future. Woman’s Club of Allwood has been making masks for EMTs and donating to St. Peter’s food bank. They made a book donation to the Library in memory of Past President Barbara Lemley followed by a socially distant luncheon.

Woman’s Club of Arlington continues to provide and deliver goody bags containing snacks & uplifting notes to the 166 residents in Kearny and Harrison Senior Residences. Also supported the Salvation Army’s 3rd Annual School Uniform and masks for needy students in West Hudson area.

The Woman’s Club of Belleville donated 100 masks to local seniors, supported a local catering venue and sent lunch to the police and 3 fire houses. They are working on Christmas stockings for Operation Yellow Ribbon and hopefully having their Tricky Tray in October.

Woman’s Club of Berkeley Heights donated to Operation Chillout, made monetary donations, cards, and small items to be given to Veterans. They keep in touch with each other by emails and phone calls.

Liberty District Past Presidents are planning their 1st meeting/luncheon to be held in October. All are welcome to attend. They donated water for Operation Chillout and made $50 donation for October luncheon.

The Woman’s Club of Little Falls are making masks and various items for Warm-up America.

The Women’s Club of Maplewood are filling back packs for the children served by the Interfaith Hospitality Network, and donated to headquarters for Operation Chillout.

The Women’s Club of Upper Montclair sewed 57 masks given to EMTs, 6 lap robes donated to Clara Maas. They sent checks to Tony’s Kitchen and Montclair Food Pantry for $1050 each.

The Woman’s Club of Verona, Inc. sent allocations to organizations on the front lines during the pandemic such as the Verona Children’s Fund, The Verona Rescue Squad, two local food pantries, and Verona Strong. Members donated items to healthcare workers at Mountainside Hospital.

Verona Juniorettes made Hearts for Hope and distributed them to healthcare workers, firemen, and members of the rescue squad.

West Essex Woman’s Club are packing stockings for the military and having their 21st Annual Ceremony and Reception for West Essex Women of Achievement.

PALISADES DISTRICT

COVID-19 has not stopped the Palisades District Clubs from working hard volunteering many hours and helping our Home Town Heroes!

Woman’s Club of Lyndhurst - In response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, ordered dinner for their town’s First Responders. Additionally, they collected donations to make “Gratitude Baskets” filled with a variety of snacks for the First Responders, essential workers, and their town’s Health Department. Lastly, they collected $515, which was donated to the Center for Hope and Safety.

Woman’s Club Haworth - The Club has been working to keep members engaged via phone calls, e-mails, and having small outdoor gatherings. They collected 130 pairs of shoes for Soles for Souls and donated $100 to Operation Chill Out.

Junior Woman’s Club of Rutherford - The 25th annual Ladybug Release Festival, chaired by former Co-President Lena Merrill, was held virtually on Sunday, June 14th. It raised $828, with some of the proceeds going towards
PALISADES DISTRICT (Continued)

the Heather Sartori Memorial Scholarship fun. In addition, the Juniors organized two food drives for the Rutherford Community Pantry. Between the two drives, the club donated 62 bags of groceries and $375 to the pantry.

Woman's Club Paramus - Their "sewing circle", which includes club ladies and even a few friends and family members, has sewn and distributed over 8500 face masks, 3200 ICU caps and 100 headbands with buttons to hospitals, nursing homes, first responders and community members. Their second food drive in August to supported their town food pantry. They also participated in Operation Chillout's summer online collection with over $170 in donations.

Cresskill Woman's Club - The Club collected $300 for Operation Chillout to purchase water for homeless veterans and sent 28 pairs of eye glasses to New Eyes for the Needy. Additionally, they gave out $2,000 in scholarships for 3 Cresskill High School seniors.

RAMAPO DISTRICT

The ladies of the Ramapo District have remained optimistic, planning club events and keeping busy caring for not only club members but their communities. Clubs have been creative keeping in touch with their members, be it via email, phone chains or the ever-popular Zoom Meetings.

One club, Suburban Woman's Club of Pompton Plains, sends out jokes and upbeat stories to keep members positive. Members have been shopping for each other to help those who can't get out.

A "Welcome Back Brunch" is scheduled for this month. Riverdale Woman's Club lost three member's husbands in the last few months but have remained positive. Although their April Fundraiser was canceled, they were able to award scholarships to deserving HS and 8th Grade Students.

Pompton Lakes Woman's Club donated over 2000 masks and Nurse Caps to local hospitals and residents. They've crocheted blankets for Linus Project and hats for Lighthouse Pregnancy & Resource Center, donated baked goods, painted pavers (donating proceeds toward food pantry), and adopted high school seniors, comforting them during a stressful non-graduation time. They've also written cards of encouragement for Operation Chillout.

Montville Township Woman's Club stayed connected and busy over the summer by giving their members fabric face masks. They collected food for their local pantry and handed out flyers for a Garage Sale, September 26 & 27.

Woman's Club of Franklin Lakes have stayed in touch with their members via frequent zoom meetings. Although their October Fundraiser had to be cancelled, they are being creative setting up an online fundraiser: stay tuned!

Woman's Club of Upper Saddle River has also been donating to local food drives, meals for Healthcare workers. They were proud to award their budgeted funds and have already donated to Special State Project. They will be participating in the town wide Garage Sale on September 12.

Woman's Club of Ramsey has been keeping in touch during the pandemic with weekly "Social Events" via Zoom. They plan "driveway meetings" of 10 members.

Woman's Club of West Milford Township adopted a bin for Soles4Souls and they started working on filling stockings for Operation Yellow Ribbon. They have donated 1,600 Fabric Face Masks, 400 headband ear savers and 1,600 Nurses Caps for healthcare workers and continue to donate to the local food pantry.

SHORE DISTRICT

The COVID-19 pandemic has not deterred the women of the Shore District from their philanthropic endeavors.

The Belmar Woman's Club donates material to women in Belmar who make face masks for Jersey Shore Hospital.
SHORE DISTRICT (continued)

Woman’s Club of Brick Township continues to donate to food pantries and makes baskets for Dottie's House that supports women and children who have survived domestic violence.

Woman’s Club of Colts Neck contributed musical instruments to the Kateri Day Camp which serves over 200 children. They also coordinated with Colts Neck Lion’s Club to provide a playground.

Freehold Township Woman’s Club is planning their 50th Club Anniversary. Congratulations!

Woman’s Club of Lacey donated knitted and crocheted lap blankets to the Sharing Network for families that donated organs from loved ones.

Little Silver Woman’s Club donated 250 masks to Monmouth Medical Center.

Woman’s Club of Matawan continues to make lap robes/blankets for veterans/nursing homes plus other craft items.

Woman’s Club of Middletown is collecting items for Operation Yellow Ribbon South Jersey Project for the military.

Woman’s Club of Point Pleasant baked and decorated cookies for the staff at Ocean Medical Center and EMT workers. “Do It Yourself Cookie Boxes” were sold, and profits of $2,250 were donated to the Children’s Specialized Hospital COVID Relief Fund.

Woman’s Club of Spring Lake sold $190 worth of masks on the boardwalk. They developed a bi-weekly letter on their website called WWV for Wonderful Women. It keeps the members connected during this pandemic. They share books, movies, and recipe recommendations, along with good news and jokes.

Stafford Township Woman’s Club sent notes of cheer to children from Hearts of Mercy that is a charity that mentors and tutors' children in need.

SOUTHERN DISTRICT

Pamela McNamee

The Southern District met via Zoom on June 17, 2020. Southern District Presidents shared some successful past and future activities with us as well as projects completed to help others during the pandemic. Several clubs collected food and money to help food pantries and members made and donated masks to help keep others safe.

The Woman’s Club of Vineland will be collecting shoes for the “Soles4Souls” project.

The Country Shore Women’s Club held a successful play in March. Other fundraising events of theirs have been postponed due to the pandemic.

Millville Woman’s Club plans to hold its annual rummage sale and meatball sub sale. These two events bring out community members and others yearly. They are always successful fundraisers.

Southern District Club women have been busy awarding scholarships to seniors in their communities to enhance and encourage graduating seniors to continue their education. We wish them all great success in their future endeavors.

The Ex-Presidents Club continues to meet twice a year to review goals of the Southern District Clubs as well as past successes. It is also a time to get together with former presidents from the District. The Ex-Presidents Club meets at the Tuckahoe Inn and all enjoy a great meal and fellowship with one another.

Future projects involve activities to help with Operation Chillout with online purchases of items to be donated to veterans. Members have already contributed to this worthwhile project. We were also reminded to make business card sized notes of encouragement which will also be given to veterans. Clubs are also planning luncheon meetings to support this Special State Project with some including speakers from this volunteer organization.
THE ARTS AND CULTURE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

Face masks fit better with a crocheted extender. These extenders have two 2¼ buttons to make the attachment to the mask and is easy to make. If you do not have these size buttons, you may purchase them on Amazon. Kathy Shephard and Marianne Bayliss from the Sparta Woman’s Club shared with this chairman about how to crochet mask extenders for the face masks. The You Tube Video is ‘Custom Comfy Crochet Extencers by Dawn Mark’. Marianne and Kathy recommend to count 16 chains instead of the instructors 18 chains. The extender size is 4 inches in length. Cotton yarn is cooler than acrylic, especially in hospital settings. The leftover yarn is enough to crochet tote bags for walkers in a nursing home.

The GFWC Headquarters announced that there will be a special Arts and Culture Community Service Program Contest. One club will be recognized at the annual convention for their own interpretation of the “President’s Prize” and the award is $100. This fall think about the theme of “What a Wonderful World!”

This theme will celebrate nature and the colors from the French murals which are displayed in the GFWC parlor. There are pictures of birds, squirrels, wildlife, snowflakes and pinecones. It is a wintery scenery in colors of “peach, russet (reddish brown), cream, silver and gold”. Think about your club’s holiday project or event for 2020 and 2021 can incorporate this theme. Complete the “President’s Prize Award Form”, in the GFWC Club Manual and mail or email to: Arts and Culture Chairman. Angela Cutrera by March 15 at Angelcutrera1@gmail.com or Angel Cutrera, 1425 Jasmine Drive, Opelousas, LA 70570. The Creative Arts Waiver Form must be included. https://www.gfwc.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Creative-Arts-Waiver.pdf. This form is found in the GFWC Club Manual under “Awards, Contest, and Grants” section.

THE ARTS/PERFORMING COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

PROJECT

Have you heard about the Arts Performing Project to collect DVDs/CDs yet? Here is some information. The project can be done by one of two ways. Each member can collect and donate their own DVDs/CDs or the club may decide they want to do it as one club project. It may be better for a club member to do it on their own, so that one person doesn’t have piles of DVDs/CDs in their home before delivery. Each member may also decide where they want to donate them. They may have a specific care center, assisted living center, veteran’s home etc. they like to support. The items should be for adults only, no children’s DVDs or CDs unless the group specifically asks for them.

Please remember to contact the groups (centers) first and ask if they would like the donation and ask about how they can be delivered and to whom i.e., you may have to drop items off items at a checkpoint outside the building or just go into the lobby.

Clean out those cabinets, closets, boxes or wherever you keep your DVDs and CDs and please keep track of the numbers you donated for the end of year report. This chairman hopes to collect 500 DVDs or CDs. This project is ongoing so there is not a deadline at this time.

UNCOMMON MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

When you listen to music, you most likely can identify each instrument because they are usually easy to identify. However, there are some “Uncommon Musical Instruments,” such as “The Great Stalacpipe Organ.” There are many strange organs out there which use all sorts of materials to produce sound, but one of the best is the Great Stalacpipe Organ. Located in Luray Caverns in the United States, it strikes stalactites tuned to various pitches with rubber mallets. In order to find these perfect pitches, the inventor, Leland W. Sprinkle, tested and shaved the stalactites in this cavern and wired them to the central keyboard. The entire process took three years, and the “organ” stretches across 14,000 square meters!

COMING IN OCTOBER

Look for more uncommon musical instruments in the October Almanac article. This issue will also contain information about the Writing Contest. It’s never too early to start thinking about a topic for a short story, poem or haiku.

The Arts Performing Supplement is on the njswfc.org web site. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact this chairman, saviello@njswfc.org.
CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

Gail Kovacs-Felici

NATIONAL SCHOOL BUS SAFETY WEEK

National School Bus Safety Week takes place October 19 – 23, 2020, the third week of October. It is an “Active and evolving public education program...to address the importance of school bus safety”. Hosted by the National Association for Pupil Transportation, the National School Transportation Association and the National Association of State Directors of Pupil Transportation Services, a poster contest is held every year.

The 2019 theme “Red Lights Mean STOP!” was derived from the previous year’s contest. That winning poster was drawn by Bryan Torres-Tavarez from Paterson NJ! The theme for the 2020 poster contest is “Be Safe – Know the Danger Zone”.

There are five divisions: from kindergarten to eighth grade, special education grades K-12, and CAD (Computer Aided Drawing). A cash prize for each division winners are awarded. An art teacher or art instructor should supervise all work. A one-page tip sheet and orders for posters are available by contacting info@americanschoolbuscouncil.org.

The deadline for posters to be received is by October 1. They are sent to the State Director – Office of School Finance Allen Dupree, NJ Department of Education, PO. Box 500, Trenton, NJ 08625-0500. He can be reached at AllenT.Dupree@doe.nj.gov or at 609-376-3941.

EDUCATION AND LIBRARIES COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

Brandi-Leigh Miller

Jumpstart Read for the Record – October 29, 2020

As students return to school in September, and return to learning either virtually or in person, we are reminded that throughout its history, GFWC has been credited with establishing 75 percent of America’s public libraries. Promoting education in both children and adults is an integral part of the work we do as Clubwomen.

Many clubs host literacy programs on Dr. Seuss’ birthday (Read Across America) or a kick-off to summer reading program so why not keep the reading going year-round? A literacy initiative that takes place each fall is Jumpstart’s Read for the Record. On October 29, 2020, people across the country and around the world read the same book to young readers. This year’s selection is Evelyn Del Rey Is Moving Away by Meg Medina, a story celebrating lasting friendship, the power of connection, and encountering change.

The goal of the Read for the Record program is to:
- Increase awareness about the critical importance and impact of early literacy
- Make high-quality children’s books accessible for all children
- Provide support for Jumpstart for Young Children’s work with early learners in underserved communities across the country

Imagine coordinating with a local classroom or school to have your members read to students in their reading circle, at a garden or park, or even by Zoom. The beautifully illustrated books include a guided discussion and vocabulary lesson that you, a teacher or parent can easily lead with no preparation. Books should be left with the teacher or school librarian to add to their collection. Don’t forget to put your club’s book donation plate inside the cover! For more information or to sign your club up to read and order books visit www.jstart.org/read-for-the-record.

Did you know that GFWC has an entire section of the club manual dedicated to each CSP? Check out the updated Education and Libraries CSP section at https://www.gfwc.org/what-we-do/community-service-programs/ and read more about the Education and Libraries challenge project goal to complete club projects focusing on STEM Projects with Students with Disabilities. You may find inspiration for your club’s next award-winning project!

What’s the Buzz for October? Clubs should be thinking about hosting a local Spelling Bee contest for 4th and 5th graders in January. Spelling Bee information will be available soon on the NJGFWC website. In the meantime, contact Education and Libraries CSP Chairman Brandi-Leigh Miller at miller@njgfwc.org to share ideas on how you can plan ahead for a socially distanced competition!
ENVIRONMENT COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

Dawn Pogosaew

In September, think “Environmental Cleanup” month. We should focus on the air we breathe, the earth under our feet, and the water we can’t live without. Small changes in our everyday life can have a huge impact on creating a healthier earth.

One way to help all three areas of our environment is to reduce our use of plastic and start to eliminate our reliance on it. This project is a great way to eliminate the use of plastic wrap. Make your own reusable wraps instead! Copy and paste the link below for step by step directions:
https://www.goodhousekeeping.com/home/craft-ideas/g25642328/diy-beeswax-reusable-wraps/

Clean the air in your home by growing a new house plant such as, pothos, lady palm, peace lily, or snake plant. Have a Zoom lecture for your club and create a terrarium together, and don’t forget to enter them for Achievement Day!

Saturday September 26th is National Public Lands Day. Great day to visit one of our National Parks its FREE! Don’t want to venture out just yet, this year the National Environmental Education Foundation (NEEF) will be setting up virtual tours of our National Parks! For more information visit: https://www.nееfusa.org/npld

On Saturday October 24th, Clean Ocean Action will hold its annual “Beach Sweep”. You can help our oceans by joining them for a few hours helping to remove garbage from the beach. Check their website at www.cleaneceanaction.org for where they will be or sign up to create your own beach cleaning area.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

Claire Hill

As September meetings begin, think about Vial of Life. The Vial a Life is a form that is stored on your refrigerator. When emergency responders are called to your home they will see the Vial a Life sticker on your front door and know to go to your refrigerator to get your important medical information.

The packet is printable online or can be purchased by calling 1-800-542-0438. Packets of 25 with posters are available by going to vialalife.com/vialoflife. This is a vital piece of information to be available to first responders. The form would be filled out and put in a zip lock bag and tape it to the refrigerator. The form asks for name, address, and other vital information. It also asks for condition you have been treated for and medications. Instructions are easy.

Your senior centers would be a great project for this. A club can help their senior citizens and elderly relatives fill out the form. It can also be a project done for each club member at a meeting.

ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN

Jane MacKesy

Being an Advocate for Children can be quite difficult during a Pandemic, but it is needed - now, more than ever. We must be creative in the ways that we become child advocates, or provide “support for children who are in a vulnerable position in society or in a vulnerable situation”. That describes all children now.

GFWC Juniors’ Special Program: Advocates for Children is initiating a challenge for clubs to “stick their neck out” by undertaking a service project that directly benefits children during GFWC Advocates for Children Week. (Sunday, 10/25, Saturday, 10/31, 2020). There is a special award, the Giraffe Award, which will be presented at the GFWC Annual Convention, to honor all State Federations that participate in the Challenge Project. An award certificate will be provided to each club that undertakes a project directly benefiting children during the fourth week of October. To be recognized, complete the Giraffe Award Application Form, at the end of the Advocates Club Manual on the GFWC website, and send it to Juniors’ Special Program Chairman Carrie Zimmerman at czim22@gmail.com. There are pages of project ideas in the Club Manual.

Kudos to The North Arlington Woman’s Club who were recognized by GFWC for this project. They saw that the rooms at a local pediatric cancer center were monotone and dull and that the hospital’s slipper socks were not interesting to young patients. To lift spirits and keep feet cozy, the club collected and donated socks in crazy colors or with fun designs such as puppies, rainbows, and sports themes. Way to go ladies!
BYLAWS

Webster defines Bylaws as the rule that an organization (such as a club or company) makes and that its members follow. NJSFWC has its Bylaws which are the cornerstone of our organization. Every year these Bylaws are reviewed and amended or changed as necessary in order to stay relevant.

According to our Bylaws, a committee is set up to review the Bylaws, recommend changes to the Officers and Board of Trustees, and then present them to the membership in a document included in the CALL to Convention. Any changes to the Bylaws are voted on at the Annual Convention where a two-thirds vote of the Convention voting delegates is necessary in order for any amendment to pass.

In order for the committee to complete this process, all clubs and/or state organizations in NJSFWC are asked to review the Bylaws and recommend any 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 Bylaws Committee by October 15th.

Given the times, it is probably more important than ever to review the NJSFWC Bylaws when you receive the 2020-2021 State Yearbook. The Bylaws Committee looks forward to reviewing all recommendations.

COMMUNICATIONS

What an exciting time to be involved in communications for our clubs. NJSFWC President Jan Hanson has set a big Communications goal for our clubs - Let Our Voices Soar! One great way to communicate is newsletters, your club’s for internal communications and newsletters from NJSFWC and GFWC for information and project ideas for your chairman.

Club Newsletters:

Club newsletters keep your members informed and can build enthusiasm for your projects. With the use of emails for members who have it, the cost of a club newsletter is very low and the benefits are high.

There are two Newsletter Contests you really want to enter! Information on both can be found in the Communications Supplement which is mailed to the Club Presidents and is on the rjsfwc.org website in the Materials section under Communications. Important Change: Send your GFWC entry to Karyn Charvat, GFWC Newsletter Contest Chairman, 716 Wildflower Circle, Naperville, IL 60540.

GFWC Newsletters:

Every Thursday News & Notes is emailed to all members who have signed up for it. To sign up and see previous editions go to the News & Notes section under News & Publications on GFWC.org.

The Clubwoman Magazine is sent free to every Club President. Members can subscribe on GFWC.org to get their own copy.

NJSFWC Newsletters:

The weekly EConnection is emailed every Wednesday. Encourage your members to sign up on the Materials page on njsfwc.org.

The ALMANAC is published eight times a year at Headquarters from articles submitted by your Board of Directors. Club Presidents receive this free (If your Club has Co-Presidents, only one Co-President receives a copy free.) To subscribe or view past editions of the ALMANAC go to the MATERIALS section on njsfwc.org.

Thank you to the ALMANAC Committee for giving up a summer day to ensure this ALMANAC reached you by early September.
FALL CONFERENCE/PROGRAM ASSISTANCE

Judy Filippini

Plans for Fall State Conference have changed due to the pandemic. The conference will be held as a Webinar on Monday, October 19, 2020 from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

During the conference there will be presentations by the chairman of the Community Service Programs, Advocates for Children, GFWC Signature Project: Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention, Legacy, Communications and Report Writing. GFWC Awards will be presented.

Our keynote speaker will be Ray Chimilewski from Operation Chillout. He will present how we can support Operation Chillout over the next two years as our Special State Project.

The registration form is included in this issue. Please complete the form and return it to NJSFWC Headquarters along with your check. Please note on outside of the envelope: STATE FALL CONFERENCE.

DEADLINE for registration is October 18, 2020. No registrations will be accepted after that date.

GFWC SIGNATURE PROJECT:
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION

Joyce Fredericks

GFWC DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SURVIVOR SCHOLARSHIP

This Officer is pleased to announce that one of the emphasis areas in this Department will be spreading awareness of the GFWC Domestic Survivor Scholarship Program.

In anticipation of questions regarding this scholarship, this Officer contacted the GFWC Chairman and the following questions were answered:

1. Where will the scholarships benefit women? This scholarship is open to any intimate partner violence survivor in any state, who meet the requirements on the application. Most states share the scholarship application with their local crisis centers, or anyone else you may know who works with survivors.
2. How many are you anticipating and what amount? In 2019 there were only 25 applications and GFWC gave six (6) $2,500.00 scholarships.
3. What do the women need to do to apply? As soon as GFWC updates the information, it will be available on the NJSFWC website. The eligibility requirements will be on the first page. It will also be available on the GFWC website.
4. How and who will be judging the submissions. In 2019, the judges were a GFWC Legislative Advisor, and a Senate Intern.

NJSFWC hope to increase the amount of money available to the survivors of domestic abuse by providing the contributions from our clubs to GFWC. Clubs are asked to download the application, once it becomes available, and send it to their local shelters so that women who are interested in it, and are beginning a new start, can apply. Awareness is done by spreading the word and letting the Director of your local shelter know of the opportunity for their clients to apply. Clubs may also consider holding a fundraiser and contributing the proceeds to the NJSFWC Continuing Funds Sheet by April 1st or by sending a check to NJ State HQ at 55 Center Way, New Brunswick, N. 08901, along with a note explaining the donation is for the GFWC Survivor’s Scholarship. Let’s increase the number of GFWC Domestic Violence Survivor Scholarships.

GIRLS’ CAREER INSTITUTE

Mary Kay Tokar

June 1 should have been the beginning of an exhausting and exhilarating 4 days for 190 high school junior girls. The GCI staff of Director, Assistants, Housemother, Nurse, and daily support volunteers were ready to work together to guide them through "a life changing experience" as they each Discovered Their Uniqueness. The year would have been better than ever as 100% of our group was returning and we had 3 "housemothers in waiting." We were strong and determined...and then the pandemic hit. On April 1 we got the email from Rutgers that changed the playing field and the future for us all. GCI would not happen in 2020.
GIRLS' CAREER INSTITUTE (continued)

Now we must move forward, even as things remain uncertain, to plan for 2021. This new Director's 'tongue-in-cheek' motto for this year will be 'Semper Gumby,' or 'Always Flexible,' as we plan for GCI in this new version of reality.

Last year, over 140 clubs sponsored delegates, offered funds for full or partial scholarships, or donated water, snacks, and craft supplies. When we were forced to cancel GCI 2020, many clubs chose to let their registrations just roll over for the next year. Remaining clubs should begin now to plan how you and your members will participate in GCI 2021. The reservation fee will remain at $250 to sponsor one delegate. The form will be included with the dues bill mailing from Headquarters. Reservations are due by January 31.

Finally, this new Director would be remiss if she didn't take time to thank 2017-2020 GCI Director Jill McDonald for her four years of hard work, and for her mentorship and friendship. She may be tiny, but she left mighty big shoes to fill.

HEADQUARTERS

Annette Bortone

This chairman would like to thank Claire Hill for securing, for free, the American flag, that is now flying outside our Headquarters. Many thanks to America the Beautiful Flags and Flagpoles for this wonderful donation.

Just a reminder to club members: The 1894 Society is still alive! The money raised keeps our Headquarters going. You can donate $18.94 - $1,894.00 or more. The donation form is included in this ALMANAC. Thank you for your generosity.

Hope to see you soon. Stay well. Keep your distance. Wear a mask. LET OUR VOICES SOAR!

HISTORIAN

Maribeth Hugelmeyer

On August 26, 2020, we marked the 100th Anniversary of the passing of the Nineteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States giving women the right to vote. For over 72 years, many women fought for this right. Now is the time to encourage your club members to find out more about this important time in history. There were many strong and dedicated women who worked towards achieving this goal.

Look into the lives and history of some of these women, like Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, Alice Paul, Carrie Chapman Catt, Sojourner Truth, Carrie Langston, and Alva Vanderbilt Belmont, to name just a few. Several months ago, in the GFWC News & Notes, they recommended reading Votes For Woman by Winifred Conkling. It can be purchased on Amazon and is an interesting, informative book.

Also, on the GFWC website, you can access the WHRC News (Women's History and Resource Center). Visit the website at GFWC.org/News & Publications/News & Notes or WHRC Newsletter. Also visit the NJSFWC website to access the WHRC Newsletter at NJSFWC.org/Materials/Women's History.

The spring 2020 issue of GFWC WHRC News was dedicated to healthcare workers. In 1894, the Trained Nurses Club of NYC was established by GFWC. Professionals were able to come together to educate others who were interested in learning about nursing. Throughout the years, GFWC supported the nurses by turning over their clubhouses to the Red Cross for training centers, assisted in recruiting new nurses and raised money for nursing scholarships.

We have experienced the historical, COVID-19 pandemic, where the NJSFWC Clubwomen were nothing short of amazing!! They rallied and made thousands of cloth face masks, headbands with buttons, ICU caps, donated meals, food baskets and countless other items to our First Responders. Several clubs were honored for their service to the Red Cross and the healthcare field workers. New Jersey's very own, The Woman's Club of Upper Montclair was honored for their service which began back in 1941.

Please send this Historian information about any historical projects your club has undertaken, at my email hugelmeyer@njsfwc.org.
HONORS

Marie DiMatties

Congratulations to Jane Mackesy, the 76th recipient of the prestigious Cecilia Gaines Holland Award!

Jane is a member of the Evening Membership Department of the Woman’s Club of Arlington in the Liberty District.

Jane was a health and physical education teacher and an elementary school counselor. She is founder, and currently works part time as project coordinator, of the local Prevention Coalition, a youth-focused campaign to reduce substance abuse.

Jane, a fundraiser for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation serves on the JDRF Liberty State Park Walk Committee. She is a Family Team Chairperson, and mentors families of children newly diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes.

Jane is a past president of the County Genealogical and Historical Society and as part of her membership gives lectures on exploring family ancestry and presents the “Ask Granny” program to school groups and at the local library.

Jane’s participation in her church includes serving as a lector and Eucharistic Minister, a Trustee, President of Rosary Society, coordinator of the Town Hall Lunch program, the Christmas Giving Tree and Easter Giving Cross as well as a co-chair of the Pillars of the Parish Committee.

In Kearny, Jane is instrumental in the Annual Town Wide Clean Up, is a member of United Irish Parade Committee, and is a 20-year volunteer for Municipal Alliance. She has assisted in organizing city wide planting of trees, is a charter member of the local chapter of AWAKE, whose mission is protecting Kearny’s waterways and local environment by reducing water pollution, and was recently appointed to ACES (Advisory Committee on Environmental and Sustainability).

Jane was the V.F.W. Citizen of the year in 2017 and Deputy Grand Marshall of the 2015 St. Patrick’s Day Parade. She is a member of Kearny Interfaith Network and Friends of the Library.

NJSFWC, the Liberty District and the EMD of the Woman’s Club of Arlington are very proud to have such an outstanding member as Jane. Well deserved, Jane!!

Jane will be honored at the 2021 Convention.

LEGISLATION/RESOLUTIONS

Chris Sienkielewski

September is a good time to begin thinking about the types of public issues in which your club members are interested. Many of these issues are supported by GFWC or NJSFWC through the resolutions which have been debated and voted upon by the general membership at the annual conventions.

When a resolution is accepted, your club members can now write to your legislators (state or national) as members of a larger organization, as well as constituents from a legislator’s district. Your voice now has become one of many voices. By taking some time at each club meeting to discuss a particular issue or even to write individual letters about one resolution that is important to them, can help to determine new policies or even new legislation that will solve a particular problem.

One particular issue that has gained some momentum since our Convention is the National Hotline Designation Act of 2020, which requires the Federal Communications Commission to designate 9-8-8 as the universal telephone number for national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline. This bill passed the United States Senate with an amendment by a voice vote. It will now go to the House. Four NJ representatives co-sponsored this bill: Donald Payne (10th District), Albio Sires (8th District), Bonnie Watson Coleman (12th District), and Mikie Sherrill (11th District). This may be a good time to contact these representatives and ask them to help bring this legislation forward. This chairman will continue to watch this bill and bring information to our members through Legislation Alerts.
LEGISLATIONS/RESOLUTIONS (continued)

This is also a good time to look at some issues within your community, the state or nationally that our members can support through a new resolution. Think about having discussions during a club meeting concerning topics that may interest your members. Look in your local paper to see if there is an issue that may affect New Jersey in such areas as conservation, human trafficking, education, or health. If there is enough interest your club can write a resolution to submit to the Resolutions Committee. Next month, this chairman will give step by step directions on how to write a resolution.

If you have questions about an issue, please call this chairman and discuss. Remember our voices can soar to help change the world – one issue at a time.

SPECIAL STATE PROJECT

Patricia Dahl

This Chairman is sending a GREAT BIG THANK YOU to all that donated to the Summer Campaign of Operation Chillout. The note cards that were sent were unbelievable and so appreciated. As always the clubs and members of the NJSFVC went beyond our best expectations. We don’t have a final count but it was way over the thousand note cards needed for the summer campaign. They will continue to use the note cards for future campaigns, so please keep making them.

During this situation we are all in, Operation Chillout would love some masks for their veterans to put in the backpacks for the winter campaign. They will take all kinds. Please mail them to the address for the note cards and let them know who they are from. Thank you in advance!!!

Here is a story of how Operation Chillout first started and this chairman hopes it will give a better understanding of the Special State Project.

A feature story appeared in a local newspaper about a homeless veteran living under a bridge in a nearby town. Never did anyone see those two words in the same sentence – homeless and veteran. Two of my friends and I disbelieving the story went to the town police to see if they could verify the facts. YES there was a homeless vet living under a bridge—they gave us the location. The Winter Solstice arrived with the first snow. It’s said that “the darkest hour is just before dawn.”

It was on the eve of the darkest day of the year that, trekking across an urban diner parking lot, the icy frost crunching beneath our feet, we spied an American flag hung upside down - the military signal of distress. We were on the right track. It marked the way to the ‘hooch’ of a Vietnam Veteran. Nestled in the cleft of a rock outcropping, under a busy highway trestle, his shelter overlooked the commuter train station. A makeshift plywood table, shredded mattress and impromptu bookstand were his few meager possessions. A flap of canvas and a wall of blankets formed a tule curtain against the biting wind and rain. We approached sheepishly and discover the single occupant - Lee.

Lee told us that he once led a life filled with promise and dignity, served with honors in the Army in Vietnam 1967-70, was married, and raised a family. Shortly after coming home he was afflicted with severe PTSD, lost his job, his friends and the life he knew, and eventually became homeless. We asked how we could help and he replied “anything you would need on a cold day outdoors I need”. We returned with warm boot socks, a pair of thermal long johns, a zipped hooded sweatshirt, a knit cap and a pair of gloves – neatly stuffed into a knapsack. After that, Lee became our eyes and ears on the ground. He taught us how homeless people survive on the street, where to get free meals, where the hospital free clinic was, where to meet people who care and places to definitely avoid.

That winter we visited Lee several times. He introduced us to other homeless vets and we became trusted allies, each time bringing the same supplies for them that Lee first asked us for. One of our volunteers who worked for ‘Ma Bell’ donated prepaid phone cards to give out on our outreach visits. Lee used his to call a nephew who was overjoyed to hear from his long-lost uncle. He sent a Greyhound Bus ticket to the food kitchen Lee used for his mailing address. After more than 30 years of being homeless Lee arrived back, reunited with his family, in Atlanta, Georgia – home sweet home.
WEBMASTER

Is Your Club Using Zoom for Meetings?

With the ongoing pandemic, many clubs and districts are holding meetings via Zoom, a web meeting platform. It is a way for our members and boards to see and hear each other to keep doing the great work our clubs all do. It's easy to join a Zoom meeting, and here are a few pointers to help you.

1. You should have an invitation to the Zoom meeting from the organizer. In that email invite, there’s a link to join the meeting. Click on the link and you won’t have to worry about knowing the meeting number or password.
2. If you don’t already have Zoom installed on your computer, phone, or tablet, you will be prompted to download and install the Zoom application. You must do this to use Zoom, and it is perfectly safe to install. If you want to install the Zoom app ahead of time, you can download it from the Zoom download center at: https://zoom.us/download.
3. If you have Zoom installed, you just click on the prompt to open it.
4. If you have never used Zoom before, you can join a test meeting so you know what to do when the time comes. Just use this link: https://zoom.us/test.
5. After you click “Join” you will see yourself from your device video. At that point you can click on “Join with Video” or “Join without Video.”
6. There are a series of buttons along the bottom or top of the screen, depending on your device. Hovering over them will tell you what they do. You want to make sure your audio is on, and you can mute yourself so people can’t hear you. If you want to speak, be sure to unmute yourself. You can also change your display name by clicking on it.

And that’s all there is to it. It’s also very easy to join a zoom meeting by telephone. Here’s how:

1. Dial one of the following numbers: Toll Free 833-302-1536 or 408-638-0968 or 646-558-8656.
2. You will be prompted to enter the meeting ID – the 9, 10, or 11-digit ID provided to you by the host. It is the number at the end of the link in your invitation email.
3. You will be prompted to enter your unique participant ID – Press # to skip.
4. You should be able to hear the meeting and speak to the participants. Press *6 to mute or unmute yourself.

So next time someone wants you to join a zoom meeting, don’t hesitate!

LEGACY

Introducing the newly formed LEGACY COMMITTEE! This is exciting as our Federation stays with the times, honors our past, and moves forward. The Legacy Committee will be updating you on the “Planned Giving” Program. Our forward-thinking founding women established the Planned Giving Legacies “back in the day!” Can you guess who they were?

Of course, there is Margaret Yardley! She left a legacy that established the Margaret Yardley Fellowship that gives annual fellowships to women pursuing further education.

And, who can forget Cecilia Gaines Holland? Cecilia left a legacy that established our dearest award to a Clubwoman for outstanding work in her community. This is a coveted recognition that Clubwomen cherish.

You can read more about these women if you don’t already know about them in the “Century of Challenge.”

Legacy Planned Giving donations to the Federation as memorials are kept separate in the budget with the monies accumulated going to the purpose designated by the giving person. More information will be coming on how you can become a Legacy member.
PARLIAMENTARY CONSULTANT TO CLUBS

Rosemarie Seghatoleslami

Parliamentary Tip of the Month

You've been elected President, your committees are chosen and it's time for the first meeting of your administration. What now? The best place to start is with an agenda or order of business. This is a step-by-step plan for handling any items of business that are to be discussed at the meeting.

The standard order of business for most organizations is:
1. Call to order
2. Opening Exercises
3. Roll call of members present
4. Reading and approval of minutes of previous meeting
5. Officer reports
6. Committee reports
7. Special orders --- Important business previously designated for consideration at this meeting
8. Unfinished business
9. New business
10. Announcements
11. Adjournment

For Women's Clubs, the Opening Exercises usually include the Collect, the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, a patriotic song, and possibly an inspiration or thought for the day. In the coming months, this chairman will share some helpful hints to make your meetings run more smoothly.

Remember, if your club is amending or revising its Bylaws, please send a copy to this Chairman before they are presented to your membership for approval. It is both her job and her privilege to make sure your Bylaws do not conflict with those of NJSFWC and make appropriate suggestions to ensure that they are easily understandable by your membership.

NJSFWC HEADQUARTERS

The NJSFWC Headquarters hours of operation are:

Monday through Thursday – 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Phone: 732-249-5474

e-mail: njsfwc.hq@gmail.com

Should you have any questions, please feel free to call or e-mail.

It is important to send any changes to your Club Leadership to NJSFWC Headquarters as soon as possible so we can make sure Clubs are receiving all the information they need to have a successful club year.