



# ALMANAC



April 2021

No. 430

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

55 Labor Center Way, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

### President's Message—Jan W. Hanson

It has been confirmed, I am not psychic. As we approach the end of my first year as President, I have come to realize a few things. Take one look at my NJSFWC Calendar at all the changes and you will realize I cannot predict the future. I am looking forward to the day (not predicting the date) when I no longer have to write the sentence "It is no longer feasible..." We have the ability to adapt and still succeed.

Thank you to the Civic Engagement and Outreach District Chairman and the District Vice Presidents from the College, Garden, Highlands, Liberty, Palisades and Ramapo Districts for arranging their Civic Engagement Days. Hopefully, members were able to learn about local organizations and find ways to network and work with them.

Zoom Spring Conferences are just around the corner and I hope you are planning to attend. Either First Vice President, Shirley Holly or I will be the Keynote Speaker and it would be so nice to have a virtual audience. We both have been working very hard on our speeches, in order to entertain and inform you, so we would appreciate your support. It is also a way to pay tribute to your District Vice President who has been working really hard during the Pandemic to assist their Clubs. Come and support your Club and Club members as we give out District rewards, including 25 and 50 year members and those that brought in 2 or more members.

Next on the agenda is a Virtual Convention. The deadline to Register is April 9<sup>th</sup> and the cost is \$10. We need Delegates in order to vote on Bylaws and Resolutions. GFWC Second Vice President, Wendy Carriker will be our Keynote Speaker on Tuesday afternoon. The week before you will receive information on logging on. Updated information will be in the eConnections, on the NJSFWC website and emails.

On April 7, 2021 we will have a hybrid workshop (Zoom and in-person) at 10:30 a.m. for training on helping the Operation Chillout Rapid Response team make follow-up phone calls to veterans. You will be trained on how to make a wellness call. If you would like to attend limited space in-person at Headquarters or via Zoom, contact Patricia Dahl, [dahl@njsfwc.org](mailto:dahl@njsfwc.org). If you cannot attend the morning session, the workshop will be recorded and will be shown again that evening at 7:00 p.m.

What will June District Councils look like? Going back to my first sentence, they will probably still be by Zoom, but I do not know. We will continue to keep you informed.

Check out the Flyer in this ALMANAC for more information on the Summer Conference. What can be better than a few days of Summer Shore Time.

In Federation Friendship,

*Jan*

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#### Special points of interest:

- State Dates
- Summer Conference
- Summer Luncheon
- Basket Donation
- Jennie June Award
- Yearbook Updates



# In Memorium

Virginia Zanetich

1925-2021

Theme:

"Rise and Be Counted"

Special State Project: Eye Institute of NJ.



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

GFWC Jennie Award Nominations – Don't miss out on this opportunity to honor an outstanding clubwoman. Each Club can nominate a member of their Club for the GFWC Jennie Award.

The Jennie Award is the highest individual honor given by GFWC. The Award is named in honor of GFWC's founder Jane Cunningham Croly, who wrote under the pen name of "Jennie June". The Jennie award gives Clubs, states and regions the opportunity to identify and pay tribute to outstanding clubwomen on each level of our organization.

Nominees are selected based on their outstanding personal commitment to their Club, community and family. By promoting the Jennie Award nominees, our communities learn about who your Club is and what it is you do, NJSFWC and GFWC.

The nomination process begins with the individual Clubs who nominate one of their own members for the state recognition. Once a winner is chosen on the state level, this winner's name then goes onto the region. Two winners are chosen in the region and sent onto the GFWC National level. One winner from each region will be chosen by GFWC for presentation at the GFWC International Convention.

The Jennie Award nomination form is included in this ALMANAC. The form can also be downloaded from the NJSFWC website.

Deadline – Club nominations are due to the First Vice President, Shirley Holly by June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021.

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**NJSFWC SECOND VICE PRESIDENT****Barbara McCloskey**

We are already a few months into the next Club reporting year. Don't forget there is a sample Project Report form on the NJSFWC website that your members can use to keep track of all their project information and totals.

Continue to remind Chairman 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.

NJSFWC Chairman reported that many Reports were sent in with zeros in every column. Everything you do for Club involves time. Even if you are just writing a check to the First Aid Squad. It had to be discussed at a meeting, voted on, check written and mailed, letter with the check or phone call explaining the check – who it's from and why. All of this involves time. There should never be a dollar amount listed with no hours.

Now that you have finished and mailed all your Reports, please take some time to review the materials and instructions for Report Writing. We will be re-evaluating the Report Forms and materials in the coming months, so if you have any comment or suggestions about where projects belong or how to determine dollars donated or in-kind donations, please email me at [mccloskey@njsfwc.org](mailto:mccloskey@njsfwc.org).

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**NJSFWC THIRD VICE PRESIDENT****Susan Chambers**

We've talked about ways to make sure our members feel valued. GFWC Membership Chairman Becky Wright has shared some wonderful ways to make your members feel appreciated. Here are just a few ideas:

Drop off a box of donuts to a special member with a note that says "We 'do-nut' know what we'd do without sweet members like you!"

A bag of M&M candies with a note saying "Thank you for being Marvelous and Magnificent" will sweeten a member's day.

A jar of honey (or anything with a bee theme) along with a note that says "We'd 'bee' lost without you" will have your members buzzing.

**NJSFWC THIRD VICE PRESIDENT (continued)**

Leave a bath bomb on a member's doorstep with a note that says "You're the BOMB!"

Let your imagination guide your heart and recognize all the good our members accomplish.

Let's give a hearty welcome to NJSFWC's newest members:

**Woman's Club of West Milford Township:**

Selisa Colwell  
Mary Labita  
Tracey O'Connell  
Mary Schouten  
Marlene Terhune  
Diane Varga

**Franklin Woman's Club:**

Marilyn Altman

**Woman's Club of Vineland:**

Deborah Hanson

**Woman's Club of Spring Lake:**

Joan Tosici  
Patricia Newman

**Woman's Club of Berkeley Heights:**

Jennifer Kovantz

**Suburban Woman's Club of Pompton Plains:**

Marilyn Gronda  
Joyce Gruzdis  
Rita Philips  
Joan Rasa

**West Essex Woman's Club:**

Richard Douglas

**Woman's Club of Maplewood:**

Joan Scalera

**NJSFWC FINANCIAL SECRETARY****Christina Burlew**

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Spring Gertrude Hawk Fundraiser. This Officer hopes you made yourself and others very happy with these delicious treats. Since both the fall and spring Fundraisers were such a huge success, this Officer is planning to set up these Fundraisers for next year.

Many fundraisers had to be postponed or canceled due to COVID-19. This Officer is hopeful that our situation will improve for the fall.

Looking for new Fundraising ideas? Do you read the District Vice President articles in the ALMANAC? Each month the District Vice President's highlight the various projects and events that their Clubs are planning. If you do not get a copy of the ALMANAC, not to worry. It is available on the [njsfwc.org](http://njsfwc.org) website under Materials. You do not need a password to access the website. The ALMANAC is published eight times a year from September thru April.

## NJSFWC FINANCIAL SECRETARY (continued)

The District Councils are another invaluable source of information. Never been to one? Why not plan on attending your District's Spring Conference. You do not even have to leave home as they all will be held on Zoom. Not sure of the date? Check with your Club President or go on [njsfwc.org](http://njsfwc.org) and click Events to find the date and time.

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## COLLEGE DISTRICT

Mary Lou Bak

District Clubs are gearing up for spring outdoor events. Garage and boutique sales are being planned by the **Metuchen Edison Women's Club** and the **Suburban Woman's Club of South Plainfield**. The **East Brunswick Woman's Club** has set their garage sale for April 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> at the President's home, 11 Darby Road, East Brunswick. The **Somerville Civic League** will hold a Mother's Day Plant Sale.

New topics for Club programs included Arts and Culture as well as historical themes. The **Woman's Club of Cranbury** presented "The Top 10 Museums of the World." Offered to the community by the **Metuchen Edison Women's Club**, the Liberty Hall Museum Zoom presentation, "Stitches in Time," discussed hemlines, necklines, and other fashion trends through time. This program was part of the Club's March Membership Drive to draw in potential new members. The **Friday Club** presented the history of important people buried in Hightstown.

Partnerships near and far have been initiated by Clubs to support service projects. The **Metuchen Edison Women's Club** has adopted an Army unit just deployed to Afghanistan and sent them goods. The **North Brunswick Woman's Club** has partnered with the North Brunswick Township High School's Operation Home Plate, to give food to food insecure students and their families. For a Read Across America project, the **Franklin Woman's Club** received donations of hundreds of books for local schools in response to a request placed on a neighborhood website. Residents at Crawford House, a Halfway House for Women, received food and gift bags with personal items donated by members of the **Montgomery Woman's Club**.

Scholarship awards by Clubs are fewer this year, but through in-club donations, external donations, and old and new ways to fundraise, this tradition proudly continues.

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## GARDEN DISTRICT

Jill McDonald

Congratulations to the **Women's Club of Pitman**. The group was Federated on April 15<sup>th</sup>, 1921. They plan to have a 100-year celebration when safely possible. The Club has survived many obstacles and continues to support the 1921 purpose "betterment of the borough and aiding worthy causes".

Welcome to the **Past Junior Directors' Club** to the Garden District. Christopher Duniak is the current President and a member of the **Haddon League**. The District for this Club rotates to the location of the President.

The **Haddon Fortnightly** and **EMD** are again fundraising with plant sales. Geranium orders must be placed by April 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Gloucester County Woman's Club** continues to find new ways to recycle. They have begun collecting dried-up markers to send to Crayola. Kohl's is anxious to have plastic hangers and dry cleaners will take the wire hangers. Contact sites near your Club to check participation.

The **Woman's Club of Medford** has shared their question for scholarship entrees - "What have you learned about yourself during this difficult pandemic period that you will carry forward throughout your life".

Recently this District Vice President had the honor of installing the Officers of the **West Deptford Woman's Club** with an "Empowering Women" ceremony written by Club President, April Maska with assistance from past NJSFWC Historian Carol Niemiec. April is willing to share.

Thank you to all the individuals and Clubs who contributed to 1894 Society this year. Every little bit helps to maintain our Headquarters.

**GARDEN DISTRICT (continued)**

Save your funds - A delivery run to Operation Smile Headquarters in Virginia Beach is anticipated soon. If your Club has collected items, contact this District Vice President so we can arrange pickup. Be sure to complete and include the Inventory Form in each box.

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**HIGHLANDS DISTRICT****Nancy Levy**

The clubwomen of the Highlands District are continuing to find projects to do during the pandemic.

The **Woman's Club of Boonton** is working on a Books for Babies project, and is collecting sneakers with help from their local coffee shop and library.

The **Woman's Club of the Denville-Rockaway Area** is collecting gently used purses and filling them with personal care items to be donated to JBWS, their local Domestic Violence shelter.

The **Woman's Club of Parsippany-Troy Hills** completed a project for Women's History Month by having members research and write about famous women; and members cleaned up the Boonton Reservoir Trail in Parsippany.

The **Peapack-Gladstone Woman's Club's** Project Sunshine made care bags and collected socks for a local nursing home.

The **Roxbury Woman's Club** held a Girl's Night Out fundraiser by purchasing kits from a local florist to make via Zoom, with the Club receiving a percentage of the sale of each kit.

The **Junior Woman's Club of Sparta** is continuing to work on a cookbook containing recipes from local restaurants.

The **Sparta Woman's Club** held a blanket drive and collected blankets and comforters for Family Promise, and also collected items for a nursing home which included bingo prizes, books and magazines.

The **Thursday Morning Club's** Community House is the home of Dress for Success, which is operating on a limited basis during the pandemic.

The **Vernon Township Woman's Club** had a virtual program by Author Eleanor Wagner, and regularly puts together gift bags for a local nursing home containing items such as gloves, hats, puzzle books and Walmart gift cards. These are given to the residents for their birthdays.

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**LIBERTY DISTRICT****Ellen Lund**

Is there light at the end of the tunnel? The Clubs in the Liberty District are certainly hoping so. Here are what some of them are planning for April. The **Woman's Club of Allwood** is planning their first meeting in over a year to be a box lunch picnic in the park.

The **Woman's Club of Arlington** will be having a virtual Baby Shower for the Salvation Army on April 13<sup>th</sup>. They continue to support the Kearny Food Pantry Network by continuing to collect usable plastic grocery bags and clean egg cartons. They also continue to deliver "thinking of you" packages to the three senior residences in town.

In April, the **Woman's Club of Berkeley Heights** will have a No Card Party/Card Party to replace their Spring Card Party Fundraiser. Weather permitting, they will raffle off the prizes in the park and games will be played.

**Eighth District Contemporaries** continue to meet with their members via Zoom. They continue to save the front cover of non-Hallmark greeting cards for St. Jude. They started to get involved with "I Support the Girls" by collecting new or gently used bras.

## LIBERTY DISTRICT (continued)

Hoping to have their in-person April Spring Luncheon is the **Liberty District Past Presidents Club**. **The Lilies** are hoping to have a meeting in April. Stay tuned.

The **Woman's Club of Upper Montclair** has held several successful remote luncheons and plan to continue with a spring themed lunch in April. Several Liberty District Clubs have been supportive of their efforts and they are truly grateful to them. Easter gifts will be sent to a local shelter.

**West Essex Woman's Club** will hold an "undercover shower" to donate undergarments for shelter residents. They are collecting small items for Operation Smile and spring items for the Valerie Fund. Messages for homeless vets for Operation Chillout will be written as well.

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## PALISADES DISTRICT

**Debbie Cibelli**

April Showers bring May flowers and our district Clubs have been busy making sure the flowers will be in full bloom this May!

**Woman's Club of Rutherford** held a take-out St. Patrick's Day Dinner event at the Clubhouse. In addition, a drawing for a Mega 50/50 Raffle was held on March 17<sup>th</sup>. Lastly, they held a collection of new and gently used clothing, handbags, shoes, accessories, etc. for their Pop-Up Thrift Shop which is scheduled for April.

**Woman's Club of Paramus** ran a St Patrick's Day craft event and continues to offer a Physical and Mental Wellbeing Walking Group which meets four times a week at a local park. In addition, they are collecting books for distribution to those in need.

**Cresskill Woman's Club** made up Easter Baskets and delivered them to the Office of Concern Food Pantry at St. Cecilia's, Englewood.

The **Junior Woman's Club of Rutherford** started a monthly food drive to collect and donate to different pantries. With spring around the corner, they will be holding their "Flower Power" fundraiser.

The **Woman's Club of Ridgefield Park** is selling flowers from "Flower Power". They can be ordered from their Facebook page. They are also collecting new and used sneakers for "GotSneakers" Sneaker Collection.

**The Woman's Club of Haworth** celebrated St. Patrick's Day with a contactless Corned Beef and Cabbage fundraising dinner catered by DiBari's of Rivervale.

The **Woman's Club of Carlstadt** has been busy collecting and donating to the First Presbyterian Church Food Pantry and also collecting toiletries for various domestic abuse organizations.

The **Paskack Junior Woman's Club** sold out "Egg My Yard" fundraiser benefiting local charities and domestic abuse organizations. Candy and toy filled eggs were hidden in yards by their "bunnies".

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## RAMAPO DISTRICT

**Marie Sullivan**

After a long winter, spring is finally on its way and Ramapo District Clubs continue to help their communities.

**Allendale Woman's Club** has been encouraging townspeople to support local restaurants and the Club is running a Town-Wide Garage Sale on April 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Glen Rock Women in Community Service** did research and found they had over 50 veterans living in town. Members filled goody bags and handdelivered them to each veteran's home.

**Pines Lake Woman's Club** jazzes up their Zoom meetings while hosting a show and tell. By showing member's favorite heirlooms, and sharing stories about why they are so special, helps bring their members closer together.

**RAMAPO DISTRICT (continued)**

**Junior Woman's Club of Ramsey** held a virtual wine and chocolate pairing while discussing the regions of Italy where the wine was produced. They are hosting an outdoor Pocketbook Bingo in April and a "Pajama Jam" (children 5 yrs. old and younger can wear pajamas and sing and dance outdoors to live music).

**Montville Township Woman's Club** is hosting a Mother's Day Plant Sale and a Town-Wide Garage Sale. They continue to collect bras, soda tabs, old eyeglasses for the needy, shoes, and are selling custom masks.

**Woman's Club of West Milford Township** is collecting plastic bags to reach their goal of putting a Treks Bench in their town. Local Clubs are helping in this endeavor.

**Woman's Club of Ridgewood** has teamed up with other organizations to help their community. They generously donate their clubhouse for distribution of outreach projects.

**Woman's Club of Ramsey** runs their annual plant sale selling vegetables and flats of annuals.

**Woman's Club of Upper Saddle River** continues to hold large food drives and keeps Zoom meetings interesting by hosting cocktail tips, healthy recipes, and show and tell.

**Suburban Woman's Club of Pompton Plains** keeps us all upbeat with their joke sharing emails.

**Pompton Lakes Woman's Club** held a Zoom workshop to help even more members feel comfortable.

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**SHORE DISTRICT****Randi Quilici**

The **Woman's Club of Brielle** cookbook fundraiser, with sponsors and confirmed sales of over 107 books is doing extremely well for Mother's Day. They also have a writing campaign going to the military.

**Brick Township Woman's Club** donated Easter baskets to the local women's shelter.

**Woman's Club of Colts Neck** received an email from Senator Vin Gopal requesting socks for the homeless and delivered 35-containers of candy/cookies for 180 Turning Around Lives and Open Door.

**Jersey Shore Woman's Club** delivered food to the Jersey Shore Mission Food Pantry. They also reached out to members who can no longer drive or have email; where meetings were their socialization lifeline.

**Little Silver Woman's Club** is working on "GotSneakers", collecting food for the food bank, and collecting clothes for the women in the military.

**Woman's Club of Lacey** has a Sneaker and Calendar Club fundraiser, is reviewing scholarship applications, and making a donation to the Popcorn Park Zoo.

**Woman's Club of Matawan** packaged socks, underwear and bras for 180 Turning Lives Around. Their Mother's Day fundraiser includes plants, crafts, and gently used items.

**Woman's Club of Middletown** collected therapy dolls for Alzheimer's/dementia patients for their local nursing home. They also partnered with "GotSneakers" after hearing information at the District Council.

**Woman's Club of Point Pleasant** Cuddly Comfort project involves giving baby dolls to Alzheimer patients as therapy. The Civic Engagement Chairman requested her family donate dolls in place of giving her Christmas presents.

**Woman's Club of Spring Lake** Scholarship Committee reviewed applications to distribute \$10,000 in scholarships. Zoom meetings were held with speakers Ray Chimileski from Operation Chillout and Gwendolyn Love from Lunchbreak.

**SHORE DISTRICT (continued)**

**Stafford Township Woman's Club** members made Easter Baskets for needy families. They include fixings for dinner plus items for children. They are also working on Club Bylaws.

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**SOUTHERN DISTRICT****Pamela McNamee**

Our Clubs continue to include their members in the improvement of their communities during this time of restriction.

The **Woman's Club of Absecon** will have a "five week Club fundraiser" planned for April. They also have a dinner at Smithville planned in the month of May.

The **Colony Club of Ocean City** is planning a fundraiser dinner at Randazzo's Restaurant on April 7<sup>th</sup>. A percentage of the night's sales will go towards their scholarship award.

The **Woman's Civic Club of Hammonton** had a successful clothing drive and soup sale. In April they plan to hold their annual Easter Egg Hunt providing COVID-19 restrictions permit the gathering.

The **Millville Woman's Club** continues to hold activities according to COVID-19 restrictions. In place of the annual Bar Be Que Birthday Bash the ladies are planning a 'take out bag lunch and basket raffle'. They continue to host the RADA Cutlery fundraiser so members can replenish worn out kitchen tools while making necessary funds for their Club.

The month of April will keep the **Woman's Club of Vineland** busy with a spring flower sale and used book sale. They also plan to hold a book discussion on the book "Lady Clementine" (Winston Churchill's wife) by Marie Benedict.

The **Women's Community Club of Cape May** is holding a handmade quilt raffle with the proceeds going to Operation Chillout, our Special State Project. They will also hold a 'bakeless bake sale' where members will donate the cost of materials used to bake a delicious treat. These funds are earmarked for deserving charities.

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**THE ARTS AND CULTURE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM****Lynn Webb**

This Chairman read wonderful ideas from all women's Clubs who reported their projects for 2020. She would like to share these projects with your Clubs in future ALMANAC articles. Homemade quilts and blankets tell a story about your Club. Who is the fortunate recipient that you spent time and energy on making this masterpiece?

The **Woman's Club of Vineland** shared the "Lily Quilt" wall hanging in honor of members who were received the "Order of the Lily". "A long, time member of the Club constructed a wall quilt with a lily to commemorate all members who received the honor of the Order of the Lily. She hoped to have a plaque indicating the award winners with the quilt. It was her desire to have the quilt framed and presented to the Club."

This Chairman checked out lily patterns that Clubs can use to design a lily quilt or wall hanging. There is a YouTube and a free PDF pattern for the "Mountain Lily Pattern" at the Missouri Star Quilt Company. [www.missouristarquilt.org](http://www.missouristarquilt.org).

The **North Brunswick Woman's Club** decided to take on the GFWC President's Prize 2020 Challenge to show how they took a difficult situation and made the best of it by creating a quilt. Quilts tell a historical story about what the Club has experienced. Who will take the GFWC President's Prize Challenge for 2021? The theme is "Good Tidings of Comfort and Joy". Check it out on the NJSFWC website, under Materials, and locate Arts and Culture for details.

The **Millville Woman's Club** shared how to crochet or knit a blanket for one of their Community Service Projects. They donated 13 blankets to the Division of Child Protection and Permanency. You may choose any pattern, knitted, crocheted, or quilted. The size for a teen is 4' x 6' and a toddler size is 45" to 48" square. The fabric or yarn needs to be machine washable. Do not use wool. Cotton or blends are suggested.

**THE ARTS/PERFORMING COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM****Rosemarie Saviello****April is National Poetry Month**

Each year the month of April is set aside as National Poetry Month, a time to celebrate poets and their craft. Various events are held through the month by the Academy of American Poets and other poetry organizations.

It's easy to participate from a safe distance. Here are some ideas of how you might get involved:

1. Sign-up for "Poem-a-Day" at [www.poets.org](http://www.poets.org) and read a poem each morning.
2. Sign-up to receive a free National Poetry Month poster, or download the PDF from [poets.org](http://poets.org), and display it for the occasion.
3. Read last year's most-read poem, Naomi Shihab Nye's "Kindness".
4. Record yourself reading a poem, and share why you chose that work online using the hashtag #ShelterinPoems. Be sure to tag [@poetsorg](https://twitter.com/poetsorg) on Twitter and Instagram!
5. Subscribe to the Poem-a-Day podcast (also found at [www.poets.org](http://www.poets.org)).
6. Check out an e-book of poetry from your local library.
7. During your meetings, read a [poem](#).
8. Learn more about poets and virtual poetry events in your state.
9. Read about your state poet laureate.
10. Buy a book of poetry from your local bookstore.
11. Browse the glossary of terms ([poets.org](http://poets.org)) and try your hand at writing a formal poem.
12. Create an online anthology of your favorite poems on [poets.org](http://poets.org).
13. Organize a poetry reading, open mic, or poetry slam via a video conferencing service.
14. Sign up for an online poetry class or workshop.
15. Donate books of poetry to little free libraries and mutual aid networks.
16. Take a walk and write a poem outside.
17. Start a virtual poetry reading group or potluck, inviting friends to share poems.
18. Read essays about poetry like Edward Hirsch's "How to Read a Poem," Mary Ruefle's "Poetry and the Moon," Mark Doty's "Tide of Voices: Why Poetry Matters Now," and Muriel Rukeyser's "The Life of Poetry".
19. Watch a movie, lecture, or video featuring a poet.

Thank you to all who submitted their poetry to the Creative Writing Contest. All entries were great!

**CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM****Gail Kovacs-Felici**

**GFWC CHALLENGE PROJECT  
SUPPORT AND AID WOMEN VETERANS**

Even though women have participated since the Revolutionary War, it was not made official until 1901 when the Army Nurse Corps were founded. Then during the last two years of World War I, were women *officially* allowed to join the military in roles other than nursing. The GFWC Challenge Project purpose is to "connect with women veterans to support health needs, reduce isolation and depression, and provide comfort and encouragement". In New Jersey (as of data from 9/30/2019) there are 325,981 state veterans, of which 25,791 are women.

In addition to the project ideas in the 2020-2022 GFWC Club Manual here are a few more to use in planning your 2021-2022 programs or projects.

- Print out and distribute locally the Women Veterans Resource Sheet available from the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs website. ([www.nj.gov/military/veterans/services/women](http://www.nj.gov/military/veterans/services/women))
- Support WoVeN – the Women Veterans Network ([www.wovenwomenvets.org](http://www.wovenwomenvets.org)) to help "provide a unique social network of women veterans to foster connections and build relationships in local communities and across the nation". Their programs include PTSD, MST (military sexual trauma) and other mental health needs; civilian transition; education, career and employment assistance; legal aid; housing and advocacy.
- Make plans to hold a public celebration on February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022: National Vet Girls RISE Day. This event recognizes the dedication of the nearly 2 million U.S. women veterans. An initiative under Active Veterans with

## CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM (continued)

Answers, Vet Girls RISE is a motivational tool for women veterans, especially those transitioning from military to civilian life. ([www.activeveteranswithanswers.org](http://www.activeveteranswithanswers.org))

- Contact the National Guard Militia Museum of NJ in Sea Girt. This is the Center for U.S. War Veterans' Oral Histories. It is the Centers mission to collect and preserve (on DVD format) the memories of veterans and Gold Star family members through recorded oral history interviews. The Center is an official partner of the Library of Congress Veterans History Project. The contact at the Center is Carol Fowler, Assistant Curator at 732-974-5966 or at [carol.fowler@dmava.nj.gov](mailto:carol.fowler@dmava.nj.gov).

## EDUCATION AND LIBRARIES COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

Brandi-Leigh Miller

### NJSFWC ESO BOOK DISCUSSION – MAY 12, 2021

On Wednesday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., NJSFWC ESO Chairman Pat Trainor will host an online book discussion via Zoom. The fourth book in our discussion series will be *The Woman's Hour: The Great Fight to Win the Vote* by *Elaine Weiss*. Discussions about new books will take place every other month.

To join the ESO Honorary Literary Society or to suggest a book for future NJSFWC book discussions, contact ESO Chairman Pat Trainor by email at [pattee217@aol.com](mailto:pattee217@aol.com).

**Reminder! You can now submit your ESO Book Report online: <https://tinyurl.com/ESONJSFWC>**

If you are on Facebook, be sure to search for **GFWC 2020 2022 ESO Book Club** and click the "join" button to be added to this private group. Don't miss out on the exciting and fresh ideas to energize your Club projects!

### KEEP YOUNG MINDS ACTIVE IN THE SUMMER MONTHS

Soon, students will set out on summer adventures, your Club can send their parents a much-needed "life preserver" -- a list of activities to share and enjoy with their children. These fun activities cover all subjects and grades; there truly is something for everyone. And, if you have your own summer adventurers at home, this list can rescue your kids from the boredom and blahs of rainy summer days. These would make great social media posts (that could be scheduled ahead of time!) to share ideas with your community to keep young minds working all summer long!

Many of these activities link to online resources. In most cases, however, the activities can be completed even by those without Internet access. The activities that do require Internet access can be printed from [www.educationworld.com](http://www.educationworld.com) and distributed to students before school ends or accessed and printed by parents at most public libraries.

1. Fill in summer's special days and events on the Education World Coloring Calendar for June, July, or August. Or help children use pencils, drawing paper, and rulers to create, decorate, and fill-in their own summer calendars.
2. Teach kids to cook with the step-by-step lessons and recipes at Cooking With Kids. The site also includes measurement reminders, safety tips, and suggestions for involving kids in the cooking process. Or check out your local library or book store for one of the recommended Heritage Cooking for Kids: Taste History books and try out recipes from Colonial days, the Civil War, and the Lewis and Clark expedition. **Don't forget, cooking is SCIENCE!**
3. Make homemade Bubble Solution and experiment with such unique Bubble-Blowing Tools as strings, milk containers, and garbage can lids. **More SCIENCE!!**
4. Read aloud *The Paper Crane* by Molly Bang. Then introduce the art of paper folding by printing and following the instructions for How to Make an Origami Crane. Younger children: Try making a fish.
5. Go on a Light Walk, an outing designed to teach kids the properties of light and facts about the sun. Bob Miller of the Exploratorium explains it all. Can't take an online tour? Do your own image walk by printing the directions and template found at the site. **Astronomy is SCIENCE!!**

**ENVIRONMENT COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM****Dawn Pogosaew**

Spring is the time to we usually run out and buy all the new 2021 plant cultivars, but did you ever stop to think that the choices you make now may have a negative effect on the environment, and keep costing you for years to come? This Chairman talking about invasive species. This Chairman spend hours EVERY WEEK all year removing invasive species from parks, yards, and roadsides. They are incredibly prolific and aggressive, and we now spend billions of taxpayer dollars to try and control and eradicate them where they do not belong! You can help stop perpetuating this costly and negative environmental impact that continues in our State by not planting these plants.

There are many choices to make at the nursery, and most of us know that there is a growing movement to “plant native. Here are several things to ask yourself when purchasing plants. Is the plant really a native species to our area? If it is not a native, will it become invasive? And, if it is a flowering plant is it contaminated with chemicals like neonicotinoids which kill pollinators? Please do some research before you plant, as are many non-native plants that are perfectly acceptable to use in the garden. Examples of annuals are; zinnias or petunias, bulbs such as daffodils or tulips, hostas and coneflowers. These are just a few of the plants that usually will not become invasive when planted in our gardens.

While not all non-native plants become invasive, there are several that are still sold by nurseries that should be avoided. Vinca, (Periwinkle or Myrtle) is a ground cover that does well in sun or shade. However, it becomes highly invasive in forests and creates mats that completely engulf the forest floor.

Other plants to avoid include; Japanese pachysandra, any Japanese Honeysuckle, Oriental bittersweet, English ivy, and any species of non-native grasses. Shrubs to avoid include, Butterfly Bush, Japanese Barberry, Privet, Burning Bush, Non-native Viburnums, and Japanese Spirea.

Plant these instead: Shade-loving perennials like American Coralbells *Heuchera americana*, Foamflower *Tiarella cordifolia* or Mayapple *Podophyllum peltatum*, or Wild Ginger *Asarum canadense* or my favorite, Woodland Phlox, *Phlox divaricate*.

Some good native shrubs to consider: Oakleaf Hydranga *Hydrangea quercifolia*, Virginia Sweetspire *Itea virginica*, Sweet Pepper bush *Clethra alnifolia*, Blueberry *Vaccinium corymbosum*, native viburnums and Meadowsweet *spirea latifolia*.

**Invasive Species information:**

Friends of Hopewell Valley Open Space: [www.fohvos.info](http://www.fohvos.info)

National Invasive Species Information Center: <https://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/us/new-jersey>

**Where to buy Native plants in NJ:**

Jersey-Friendly Yards has a list of Nurseries throughout NJ that sell Native Plants:

<https://www.jerseyyards.org/jersey-friendly-plants/where-to-buy-native-plants/>

**HEALTH AND WELLNESS COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM****Claire Hill**

New Eyes for the Needy is not accepting used eye glasses at this time, so please contact your local Lions Club, if you have eyeglasses to donate.

Valley Hospital, located in Ridgewood, NJ has offered to provide a program on woman's health. They are willing to do a virtual program on cardiovascular health. If your Club is interested, contact Mary Collins, Director Cardiac Surgery, Cardia Screening [collma@valleyhealth.com](mailto:collma@valleyhealth.com) or Kimberly Gatto, Administrative Assistant, Cardiac Screening, [kgatto@valleyhealth.com](mailto:kgatto@valleyhealth.com). Be sure to tell them you are a NJSFWC Club and they will work with you on a virtual meeting. Kimberly Gatto may have literature to mail for your members if you are not in the hospital area.

**What is the best daily diet for a healthy heart?**

Incredibly heart-healthy foods include: Leafy Green Vegetables such as spinach, kale and collard greens, all well-known for their wealth of vitamins, minerals and antioxidants. Also, on the list include whole grains, which include all three nutrient-rich parts of the grain: germ, endosperm and bran.

**HEALTH AND WELLNESS COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM (continued)**

Other heart healthy foods include ... Berries. ... Avocados. ... Fatty Fish and Fish Oil. ... Walnuts. ... Beans. ... Dark Chocolate. ... Tomatoes. ... Almonds. ...

**Operation Smile**

If you have any items that you would like delivered to Operation Smile, please contact Jill McDonald (mcdonald@njsfwc.org). Items need to be at Headquarters by March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Clubs in the College, Garden, Shore and Southern Districts can arrange directly with Jill for pick up.

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**ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN****Jane Mackesy**

As this article is being written, this Chairman is going through all of the wonderful reports that were sent to her either for Advocates for Children or CASA NJ. Even with quarantine, lockdown, and social distancing NJSFWC members have done amazing work in their communities. This Chairman will be featuring some projects in future ALMANAC articles.

One focus area for many Clubs has been St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. St Jude is an affiliate of GFWC. During a recent GFWC/St. Jude Webinar this Chairman learned, that St. Jude was founded by Danny Thomas, after he had prayed to St. Jude, and then had a successful career.

The mission of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital is to advance cures, and means of prevention, for pediatric catastrophic diseases through research and treatment. Consistent with the vision of Danny Thomas, no child is denied treatment based on race, religion or a family's ability to pay.

It is located in Memphis, Tennessee, a central location so that children from across the country can be treated there. The research that is conducted has brought the survival rate of childhood cancer from 20% in 1962, when it was founded, to over 80% now. St. Jude shares their research findings freely with other institutions, so that children across the country and the world benefit from it.

Due to COVID-19, they are currently not accepting items, except those that come from Amazon. Please check the website at [stjude.org](http://stjude.org). If you click on "Get Involved", you might find a current project that you can participate in. For Valentine's Day, they had an option to send a virtual Valentine's Card. It took me about a minute to complete it. Monetary donations are always accepted.

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**BYLAWS****Vivien S. Finn**

The presentations of the Bylaws for 2021 will take on a different look this year as the NJSFWC Convention will be virtual. The Bylaws will be presented by this Chairman as part of the Business Session on Tuesday, April, 27<sup>th</sup> and voted on at that time. The Amendments have been proposed by the Bylaws Committee and the NJSFWC Board of Directors.

Club Presidents should have given their Delegates a copy of the Proposed Amendments to the NJSFWC Bylaws as soon as they received them with the CALL to Convention in order for them to be ready to vote.

The Bylaws of any organization are similar to a legal corporate document and are the formally adopted rules of procedure of governance for the organization. They define the organization, its primary characteristics, how it functions, and cannot be changed except "by a two-thirds vote of the voting body present and voting at the Convention." The Bylaws, in order to remain relevant, should be reviewed each year and changed as necessary. Article XVII of the NJSFWC Bylaws describes the procedure to be followed to amend the Bylaws.

This Chairman is grateful for the help and guidance of an outstanding committee consisting of Honors Chairman Marie DiMatties, Kathy Pavalkis, Past State President Jean Revis, Carol Swinburne, and Ex-officio members, NJSFWC President Jan Hanson, Third Vice President Susan Chambers, and Parliamentary Consultant to the Board Ann Quinn.

**COMMUNICATIONS****Carole Speechley****Brand Recognition**

One way to get your Club known is by brand recognition. Having a logo is a good start, so if you don't have a logo, get one and make it eye-catching. On EVERYTHING you do, prominently display your logo and Club name and include the NJSFWC and GFWC logos and your contact information (website, phone, Facebook and email address).

Having a consistent look to your flyers so they are easily recognized is another way to get brand recognition. Consider using the same heading and footer on all flyers and the event specific in between. Of course, logos and contact information is a must!

Settle on one letterhead with your logo and make sure everyone who needs it has it either online or on paper.

Consider getting a banner with your logo and Club name on it. When you take a publicity picture of your Club doing a service project, have the banner in the picture. If your Club has a theme, consider including it on the banner.

The more your community sees your Club name and logo the better they will get to know you.

Don't waste the information you put in your reports!

You put a lot of information in your reports. Total up the hours, donations and in-kind donations and brag about this and who benefited from it – and remind them you did all this during a global pandemic! Consider doing this in a letter to the editor thanking the community for their help. Or post it on [Patch.com](http://Patch.com) or [Tapinto.net](http://Tapinto.net) or your local online news.

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**CONVENTION****Susan Fosdick**

As you know, the NJSFWC 127<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, April 26-27, 2021, will be held virtually.

This Chairman hopes that by the time you read this article, you have completed the Registration Form, listing those members and Delegates attending, and mailed it along with the \$10.00 per person Registration Fee to Headquarters. As stated in the CALL, a link will be sent to each member's email address to access Convention a week before the event. This one link will allow you access to all Workshops and Convention Sessions.

On Monday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, consider joining one, two, or all three of the informative Workshops which have been scheduled.

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. – RAIN GARDEN  
12:00 (Noon) – 1:00 p.m. – HISTORY OF THE PALISADES  
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. – MARINE MAMMAL STRANDING CENTER

On Tuesday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, from 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. be sure to attend the Opening Business Session for Presentation of Awards, President's Report, and Voting on Amendments to the Bylaws.

From 12:00 Noon to 1:30 p.m. join a Leadership/Membership Workshop led by First Vice-President Shirley Holly and Third Vice-President Susan Chambers.

The afternoon Business Session will begin with the in-Memoriam Ceremony. This will be followed by Award Presentations, Presentation of Resolutions and an address from our Keynote Speaker.

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**CREDENTIALS AND REGISTRATION****Cynthia A. Blumenkrantz**

By this time, all Club Presidents, Past State Presidents, NJSFWC Board of Directors, etc. should have received the CALL to Convention that was mailed mid-February and your Registration and Delegate Forms have been mailed back to Headquarters. The Registration form should *have been* mailed with ONE CLUB CHECK covering the amount due for

## CREDENTIALS AND REGISTRATION (continued)

your Club member's Registration, and the check made payable to NJSFWC Convention, earmarked Credentials and Registration and sent to: NJSFWC Headquarters, postmarked no later than April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

**If your Alternate is to become a Delegate, this change can only be made by this Chairman no later than 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. Directions for changing Credentials will be sent with the Zoom login information.**

Resolutions will be mailed to Club Presidents to be given to your Delegates before the Convention. Even though this is a much different Convention for us, we have the opportunity to 'see' many more Club members attending virtually than if we had Convention in person due to the limited numbers allowed by hotels right now.

This Chairman and her Committee are looking forward to attending workshops unrestricted by size of room and being able to conduct the business of the Federation in these different times.

'See' you at Convention 2021! If you have any questions about your Registration, please call this Chairman, (310) 691-9388.

## GFWC SIGNATURE PROJECT: DOMESTIC & SEXUAL VIOLENCE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION

**Joyce Fredericks**

APRIL IS PREVENT CHILD ABUSE MONTH. In this Chairman's March ALMANAC she highlighted that fact and suggested some projects. Here are some more ideas:

- Write to your elected official about the importance of preventing the abuse and neglect of New Jersey's children.
- Purchase pinwheels and plant your own pinwheel garden.
- Talk about prevention in your community.
- Organize a small fundraiser to raise awareness in your community.
- Line walkways with pinwheels.

This Chairman presents a challenge: In all the reports received ONLY 19 Clubs planted PINWHEEL GARDENS. Next year this Chairman would like to report that 100% of NJSFWC'S CLUBS planted PINWHEELS! Are you up to the challenge? It is such an easy project. Details were in the MARCH ALMANAC. NJSFWC has taken up the challenge and will be planting a pinwheel garden at Headquarters on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 11:00 a.m. Club members are welcome to come with a pinwheel to plant in our "Garden". If you are planning to attend please R.S.V.P. to Headquarters. Pinwheels can be planted anywhere, use your imagination. Pinwheels can be obtained for \$1 each from PCA-NJ. See March's ALMANAC.

EVERY CLUBWOMAN CAN PLANT PINWHEELS OUTSIDE THEIR HOME, in a front or side yard, in a basket or bucket on their front steps. Ask businesses in town if they would allow you to bring them a basket full of pinwheels.

Thank you again for those of you who took the time to report on your GFWC Signature Project: Domestic & Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention.

## HISTORIAN

**Maribeth Hugelmeyer**

### New York State Woman Suffrage Association vs. Lady Liberty:

Protesting was nothing new for the suffragists. They fought to have their voices heard and to get the word out about their cause.

On October 28, 1886, the Statue of Liberty was unveiled. The suffragists objected to the huge female statue standing in New York Harbor as a symbol of liberty. When in fact, most women in American did not have the liberty to vote.

## HISTORIAN (continued)

Tickets were needed to attend this unveiling. The New York State Woman Suffrage Association was unable to procure tickets because they would be attending as unaccompanied women. At that time, women could only attend such events, if she were accompanied by a man. There were only two women that attended, each accompanied, one by her husband and the other by her father. Even the wives of the American Committee members were not able to attend and had to watch from a ship off the island.

Since there was a procession of ships sailing in the harbor that day, the suffragists chartered a boat. While on the boat they held up banners protesting the statue's unveiling. They shouted protest speeches but were not heard because of the noise in the harbor.

## HONORS

**Marie DiMatties**

Thank You to the Clubs and Clubwomen who submitted Women of Achievement nominations, Cecilia Gaines Holland Award nominations and recipients to be entered on the Honor Roll and in the Order of the Lily. The Women of Achievement and Cecilia Gaines Holland recipients, and Honor Roll and Order of the Lily recipients will be honored at the NJSFWC Summer Conference at the Tropicana, Atlantic City. The Cecilia Gaines Holland Luncheon and Women of Achievement Dinner will be on Monday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 and the Honor Roll and Order of the Lily recipients will be honored on Tuesday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021. The new deadline for Honor Roll and Order of the Lily submissions is May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021.

At any time of the year a Club or Clubwoman may honor someone who has supported the Club or you by enrolling that woman or man in the NJSFWC **Honors Book**. It can be a clubwoman, a person who always attends your fundraisers, the man who drives members to events, fixes equipment, or completes other chores for your activities. The process is simple. Send her or his name and address and reason for honoring her or him together with a check for \$15.00 earmarked "Honors Book" to NJSFWC Headquarters, 55 Labor Center Way, New Brunswick, NJ 08901. A card with a sketch of the NJSFWC Headquarters will be sent to the honoree notifying her or him of your gift.

**Memorials** for a deceased clubwoman or Club friends to be entered into the **Memorials Book** are appropriate at any time of year. A letter from a Club or friend with the person's name and pertinent information is sent to NJSFWC Headquarters, 55 Labor Center Way, New Brunswick, NJ 08901, with a check for \$15.00 earmarked "Memorials Book". If you wish an acknowledgment be sent to the person's family that information should also be included in the letter, and an "in Memoriam" card will be sent.

## LEGISLATION/RESOLUTIONS

**Chris Sienkielewski**

By now your Club president has received the Proposed Resolutions for a vote at the 2021 NJSFWC Convention. This Chairman applauds all the hard work done by the Clubs who submitted the Resolutions, as well as the excellent work from the Resolutions Committee. It has been an honor to work with so many dedicated and committed clubwomen.

During the month of April, your Club members should review the Proposed Resolutions. Many of the issues that are represented in these Resolutions reflect current legislation that is being discussed in the state legislature today, which also means that NJSFWC has the ability to make a decision on outcomes that will help many.

Once the Resolutions are voted upon, each Club and member can begin the process of asking our representatives to consider the issues. Your Club can write one letter that reflects your Club's commitment to the issue and/or write as individuals who represent not only your Club, but each individual. Although no barometer exists to measure the political pressure **each letter** exerts, politicians say that **each person** who writes one letter and makes an effort to **write** a thoughtful, coherent **letter represents** from three to eight additional **constituents** who did not take the time to write. A Club of 20 members, writing individually can represent up to 160 additional constituents. NJSFWC members can make a difference.

Letters and faxes are an extremely effective way of communicating with your elected officials. These tips will help increase the effectiveness of your letter:

## LEGISLATION/RESOLUTIONS (continued)

Keep it brief: Letters should never be longer than one page, and should be limited to one issue. Therefore, each Resolution requires one letter. Legislative aides read many letters on many issues in a day, so your letter should be as concise as possible.

State Who You Are and What You Want Up Front: In the first paragraph, tell your legislators that you are a constituent and a member of the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs. Identify the issue represented in the Resolution. If your letters pertain to a specific piece of legislation, it helps to identify it by its bill number (e.g. H.R. \_\_\_\_ or S. \_\_\_\_).

Hit your three most important points: Choose the three strongest points that will be most effective in persuading legislators to support your position. Remember to keep your original Resolutions you receive prior to the Convention and use the points in the Resolution.

Personalize your letter: Tell your elected official why this legislation matters in his/her community or state. If you have one, include a personal story that shows how this issue affects you and your family. A constituent's personal stories can be the very persuasive as your legislator shapes his or her position.

You are the expert: remember that your legislator's job is to represent you. You should be courteous and to the point, but don't be afraid to take a firm position. Remember that often your elected official may know no more about a given issue than you do.

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## SPECIAL STATE PROJECT

Patricia Dahl

**PLEASE, NO MORE NOTE CARDS AT THIS TIME! Thank you.**

This Chairman has been asked by Operation Chillout to request that our members who use Facebook to go to Operation Chillout's Facebook page and 'Like' it. It is a great way to find out what their organization has been doing, and what some of their future plans may be.

This Chairman wants to THANK all the Clubs who sent in reports. She was overwhelmed with all you have done in such a short time considering the circumstance we are all going through.

We all have to find creative ways to fundraise. Two Clubs had very simple but fun ideas. The **Haddon Fortnightly EMD** usually passes a "House Collection Box" at their Club meetings, which was not possible this past year. So, the President decided to collect money for Operation Chillout by asking the Club members to count how many rooms in their homes one month, and count how many sweatshirts they own in another. Then send in \$1.00 per room and sweatshirt to the Club Treasurer. The **Denville-Rockaway Area Woman's Club**, while the months were warm, scheduled hikes with a limit of 5 members, with each allowed to bring a friend for a total of 10 hikers. Each members and guest were asked to donate \$5.00 to Operation Chillout per hike. It was fun to get together, be socially distanced, and get some exercise for a worthwhile cause.

This Chairman hopes you are learning how to play Bunco for our future District Fundraisers!

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## WEBMASTER

Denise Hosier

Your Webmaster's goal for the past three years has been to help establish a web presence for every Club. You might have a complete website, a single page on the NJSFWC website, or a social media account like Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram. Younger prospective members look to the Internet for information, and that is why it is imperative that Clubs have a web presence to attract new members.

With the closing of webs.com, some of your websites may have disappeared. There are several hosts that offer free sites, including Wix, Weebly, and Site123. You can also set up a free site in WordPress, although that is a little less user friendly.

**WEBMASTER (continued)**

If you need help in setting up a new site, please email [webmaster@njsfwc.org](mailto:webmaster@njsfwc.org). The Webmaster will have plenty of free time over the summer and will be happy to help! And when you set up a site or page, be sure to inform the Webmaster so that your Club can be linked on [njsfwc.org](http://njsfwc.org).

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the Convention Zoom!

**LEGACY****Laura Badger**

Legacy documents in the January and February ALMANACs were a letter to clubwomen with information for providing Legacy Planned Giving to the NJSFWC in estate planning and the Legacy Planned Giving Circle Pledge. The Administration's position is that your plans are private, therefore you should not send copies of wills or declarations to Headquarters or the Legacy Chairman. In other words, we are working on the honor system that you have made these provisions and the Federation will cherish any remembrance you donate in your memory.

Legacy Planned Giving Circle Pledge by a clubwoman can be submitted to Headquarters on the form in the February ALMANAC. Clubwomen making a pledge will receive a small token of thanks. Again, the pledge is private except to be acknowledged by the Federation if you desire. The letter and pledge form are also on the NJSFWC website under Materials, Legacy.

Questions can be submitted to the Legacy Chairman by email or phone. We suggest you consult your legal and financial advisors for their professional guidance.

**PARLIAMENTARY CONSULTANT TO CLUBS****Rosemary Seghatoleslami**Parliamentary Tip of the Month – Parliamentary Law Month

April is Parliamentary Law Month, so chosen since it is the birth month of Thomas Jefferson, author of "Manual of Parliamentary Practice for the Use of the Senate of the United States", America's first manual on parliamentary procedure. Jefferson wrote his manual when he was Vice President and presiding officer of the Senate. General Henry M. Robert based his Rules of Order on the House of Representatives version of Jefferson's manual.

In the words of General Robert, "It is difficult to find another branch of knowledge where a small amount of study produces such great results in increased efficiency in a country where the people rule, as in parliamentary law."

You can contact your local town government for a Proclamation for Parliamentary Law Month. You may have to provide the town with the wording for the proclamation. The following is sample wording:

Whereas, since April is the birth month of Thomas Jefferson, who wrote the first American manual of parliamentary procedure in 1801, it is an appropriate time to honor him and celebrate the use of parliamentary procedure;

Whereas, it is fitting to honor Henry Martyn Robert, author of Pocket Manual of Rules of Order for Deliberative Assemblies, also known as Robert's Rules of Order;

Whereas, Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised is the most widely recognized and used parliamentary authority in public and private organizations, such as town government and the Woman's Club of \_\_\_\_\_;

Whereas, it is timely to reflect on the importance of parliamentary procedure in meetings in providing for civil discourse, protecting individual rights, ensuring fairness, and in maintaining order,

Now therefore be it Resolved, that I \_\_\_\_\_, Mayor of the Town of \_\_\_\_\_, do hereby declare April 2021 as Parliamentary Law Month, and a copy of this proclamation be given to the Woman's Club of \_\_\_\_\_.