



# ALMANAC



April 2022

No. 438

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

55 Labor Center Way, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

### President's Message—Jan W. Hanson

Spring is bringing a renewal. Hopefully, we can continue to breathe in the fresh air without masks and show everyone our smiles.

President-elect Shirley Holly and I are looking forward to meeting the members at the Spring Conferences and Achievement Conferences. Words cannot express the joy I feel at being able to finally hold events in-person. To have the opportunity to look over the Achievement Day entries, to physically hand out an award and to share real conversations. Thank you to the District Arts and Culture and Environment District Chairmen who coordinated the contests. Congratulations to the District Vice Presidents as they hold their Spring Conferences.

Congratulations to Special State Project Chairman, Patricia Dahl, for coordinating the Special State Project Northern Wine and Cheese Party. I cannot thank the members enough for their baskets, wine and donations that made this event a success. The bat signal calls Batman, but we have something better-dedicated clubwomen. We ask for help and the response is overwhelming. Special thanks to Vivien Finn, who coordinated the club house and the tasks in the North; Janet Oscar, who coordinated the food (it wasn't just cheese) and Marie Sullivan who supplied us with a connection to obtain the alcohol and to all of the women that helped that day. Many hands make it better.

Hopefully, you have heard that we are able to hold Girls Career Institute. Everyone participating must be vaccinated per Rutgers' regulations. As soon as Director Mary Kay Tokar got the green light she sprang into action, rallying staff and speakers.

We are also looking forward to the State Spelling Bee and send best wishes to all the participants and to Education and Libraries Chairman Brandi-Leigh Miller and her committee.

The deadline for Convention is approaching and after a two-year drought you do not want to miss all the excitement. We will hear from GFWC President Marian St. Clair and Author Violet Snow. Our 2022 Women of Achievement awardees will speak, along with our Cecilia Gaines Holland winner. The District Vice Presidents will enlighten and entertain us. Club Presidents will be honored along with the State Ex Clubs. This President will say goodbye and Shirley Holly will say hello. Our totals will be unveiled and our new Special State Project will be announced. Club members receiving the Honor Roll and Order of the Lily will be acknowledged. There will be awards, Bylaws, and Resolutions. Of course, there is always more: raffles, vendors, contests, no cooking or cleaning. Most of all it will be a wonderful opportunity to meet with friends from all across New Jersey. Convention Chairman, Susan Fosdick, Cynthia Blumenkrantz, Credentials and Registration Chairman and I are looking forward to meeting you at the Trop.

Hopefully, you were able to attend your Civic Engagement and Outreach District Day. This was a great opportunity to learn about organizations that need your assistance in your own back door. Working with other organizations increases your club's visibility and gives a chance to "Let Our Voices Soar". Thank you to the District Chairman, District Vice Presidents and Civic Engagement and Outreach Chairman Gail Kovacs Felici for bringing this all together.

Thank you to all the clubs that sent in their Continuing Funds form by April 1<sup>st</sup>. If you missed the deadline, it is never too late to send in a form, however, we need the information by the due date in order to total this numbers for this administration.

Another important date is May 1<sup>st</sup>. Headquarters needs your club's Yearbook

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# ALMANAC

## President's Message—Jan W. Hanson (continued)

Data (Blue) sheet to lock in your membership number and update your Officer's Information. The amount of Dues that you owe is based on this number so if you fail to send this information by May 1<sup>st</sup>, the previous year's information will be used. This can cause financial hardship if you have lost members or inaccurate membership if you gained numbers.

Thank you for your support of the Special State Project-Operation Chillout. Patricia Dahl and I are anxious to reveal the totals at Monday night at Convention. We have made an impact on this organization and I am grateful for everything our clubs have contributed.

Thank you to the ALMANAC committee and Office Staff for getting the ALMANAC out to us each month. This is my last ALMANAC article as Federation President. It was not the administration I planned, but I am truly grateful for everyone who helped us find our way. Special thanks to Patti Notarianni, Executive Assistant for her flexibility while at the same time keeping things as "normal" as possible and to the Office Staff, Joanne Mangels and Cynthia Blumenkrantz.

This was truly an exceptional Board of Directors as they constantly had to adjust to changing rules, dates and programs. Everyone learned Zoom and took on my constantly changing challenges. The Executive Committee worked hard to keep traditions while being flexible. It was an interesting administration, however, thanks to everyone's hard work we not only survived, but thrived.

It has been an honor to serve as your President,

*Jan*

*Let Our Voices Soar*



**NJSFWC PRESIDENT-ELECT****Shirley A. Holly**

**What is 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. The next Jennie will be selected in 2023 and be awarded at the 2024 GFWC Convention. It is not too early to start thinking about nominating someone for this prestigious award. Information can be found on the NJSFWC website and in future ALMANACS.

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, as a part of NJSFWC and GFWC.

The nomination process begins with the individual clubs who nominate one of their own members for 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.

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

**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).

**NJSFWC THIRD VICE PRESIDENT****Susan Chambers****Exploring for New Members**

GFWC Juniorette Chairman Trina Behbahani gives us a fun and create way to find new members: reach out to FRANCES!

**Friends, Relatives, Acquaintances, Neighbors, Co-workers, Educators, Students**

Each of these groups can be introduced by you to NJSFWC. According to Trina, "An art teacher or librarian may have a network of colleagues and friends who would like to form a club solely focused on creative arts or literacy. Your neighbors might express an interest in community conservation projects...." The contacts you make can bring new inspiration to your club or perhaps even form their own club. The future of NJSFWC depends on growing membership.

**NJSFWC THIRD VICE PRESIDENT (Continued)**

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

**The Woman's Club of Haworth**

Irene Russano  
Nancy Schrempp  
Anita Crooks

**Ridgefield Park Woman's Club**

Carol Nicolay  
Linda Greenberg

**Woman's Club of Brielle**

Erin Augustine  
Gerrie Balcom  
Helena Coogan

**Woman's Club of Woodstown**

Nancy M. Hart  
Sherrill A. McHarness

**Franklin Woman's Club**

Alice Beals  
Lisa Buess  
Massa Davis

**Woman's Club of Hopatcong**

Sheryl Hoer  
Lucy Gentile  
Annette Grieco

**Woman's Club of Spring Lake**

Barbara McLoughlin  
Lauria Graham  
Teresa Kelly  
Honey Molinelli  
Miriam Cipalano  
Laurie Caccavo  
Maureen Cole  
Barbara Kittle

**Woman's Club of Point Pleasant**

Jean Blaha  
Irene Cecchino  
Robin Felice  
Elaine Guarino  
Robin Hoenge  
Kimberly Kearns  
Lisa Lieberman  
Pegeen Mendizabal

**Gloucester County Woman's Club**

Donna Bittner  
Sheri Kappes  
Maureen McGlenn  
Nancy Huizenga  
Margie Maccarone  
Lorraine Ruffino  
Dina Beck  
Rachael Zaleski

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

Several clubs reported that they were unable to hold any fundraisers. This Officer remains hopeful that our situation will improve.

Looking for new ideas? A Bakeless Cake Sale is a great and easy way to raise funds. All you need to do is email or send a letter to all your members inviting them **NOT** to bake bread, brownies, cakes, cookies or pies. Members don't have to find a recipe, shop for ingredients, cook, mix, cut, wrap, do dishes, or clean up their kitchens. All they need to do is send a check to cover the amount of money it would take to bake. If your club is meeting in person, then they can bring their donations to the meeting. You can find some clever poems on the internet to include in your email or letter. Just google "Bakeless Cake Sales".

Do you read the District Vice Presidents' articles in the ALMANAC? The District Vice Presidents highlight the various projects and events that the Clubs in their District are planning. The District Councils are another invaluable source of information. Maybe your club will be inspired by another club's fundraiser. If you do not get a copy of the ALMANAC, it is available on the [njsfwc.org](http://njsfwc.org) website under MATERIALS.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Spring Gertrude Hawk Fundraiser.

**COLLEGE DISTRICT****Mary Lou Bak**

District Clubs participated in the January Council sharing a variety of interesting programs. The **Friday Club of Hightstown** members heard the story of Emily Roebling who supervised a large part of the construction of the Brooklyn Bridge. Her experience was recounted by professional storyteller, Carol Simon Levine. The Club also held a program teaching members good stretching techniques.

Other clubs warded off the cold of this winter by focusing on additional healthy habits and personal fraud protection. The **East Brunswick Woman's Club** learned about diet and nutrition while the **Franklin Woman's Club** was made aware of security threats from NJ Consumer Affairs Outreach speaker Melanie Hazim.

Working with community partners helped clubs raise awareness about issues near and far. The **Woman's Club of Clinton** assisted the United Way of Hunterdon County by donating Wish List items for disadvantaged individuals and families. The **Branchburg Woman's Club** hosted the Police Department to explain a new Township program for Seniors, Blue Guardian, giving police access to persons who experience an emergency while alone. Helping to rescue trafficked children in Ghana, the **Metuchen-Edison Woman's Club** is working together with Metuchen High School, a member of *Breaking the Chain through Education*, a non-profit dedicated to ending child slavery in Africa. In association with the Township, the **Bridgewater Woman's Club** issued a proclamation honoring April as National Child Abuse Prevention Month.

The **Kalmia Club** arranged for members to share their favorite books in a post-holiday tradition and is looking ahead to new challenges, by addressing a decline in membership through development of a Club survey.

With the Annual Spelling Bee program returning this year, both the **Greater Hightstown Juniores** and the **East Brunswick Woman's Club** enthusiastically planned and sponsored local bees for elementary students.

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**GARDEN DISTRICT****Jill McDonald**

National Volunteer Week is celebrated in mid-April by many organizations and municipalities across the United States this month. The dates actually vary slightly depending on where you get your information, but April 17 – 23, 2022 is frequent. NJSFWC will be celebrating the contributions of our clubs and members in many ways this month.

The Garden District Spring Conference and Achievement Day will once again be celebrated at an in-person event on April 14<sup>th</sup> at the beautiful Pennsauken Country Club. Members will flood the exhibit area with Arts and Culture entries and display many Environment related creations from live plants to upcycled items. Kathy Cullen and Marie Boody, District Chairmen of the two divisions respectively, have coordinated entry forms, display areas and found judges for the contests. Awards will be presented after a delicious lunch, reports of club Presidents and District "Celebrities." Gold winners will be given their packets to take their entries to the NJSFWC Convention in Atlantic City on April 24<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup>.

The Student Pantry Food Drive for Douglass/Rutgers University was a huge success. This District Vice President had hoped for at least one item per member to be donated. The 16 clubs participating surpassed that goal for the total District with well over 1,000 items delivered. One and a half mini-van loads were delivered to Headquarters and another directly to the pantry.

As this ALMANAC issue reaches you, the term of this Garden District Vice President will be concluding. In-person meetings have been rare, but traveling the Garden District to deliver Federation items and pick-up entries and donations has been the tie that binds. The NJSFWC Convention will see this District Vice President in a new Board position and you will enjoy the leadership that a new District Vice President will bring to the Garden District.

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

The **Woman's Club of the Denville-Rockaway Area's** members supported women undergoing treatment for breast cancer by writing notes of encouragement through the Girls Love Mail organization. Also, a member's daughter engraved a slate to be placed at a tree the Club planted for a deceased member.

## HIGHLANDS DISTRICT (continued)

The **Hopatcong Woman's Club** sent Valentine cards to nursing home residents, and gave gifts and cookies to Hopatcong's Head Start.

The **Long Valley Junior Woman's Club** held a trivia night fundraiser at a local brewery to benefit Special State Project.

The **Long Valley Juniores** put together gift bags with personal care items for pregnant women at Birth Haven.

The **Long Valley Woman's Club** has an ongoing project called Save the Girls, where they collect and donate used bras to the Hanes Company, who sends them to women in developing countries.

The **Woman's Club of Parsippany-Troy Hills** donated candy Valentines to their Domestic Violence shelter, along with lipsticks they obtained by partnering with "Find Your Fabulosity."

The **Roxbury Woman's Club** held a "My Favorite Book" contest for sixth grade students, and had a speaker from Women Heart: The National Coalition for Women Living with Heart Disease.

The **Sparta Woman's Club** newsletter highlights a woman who has a marker on the Women's Heritage Trail. Each month a member researches and writes about one of these New Jersey women.

The **Thursday Morning Club** held a "Super Bra Sunday" bingo, with the price of admission being bras, underwear and personal hygiene items for I Support the Girls.

The **Vernon Township Woman's Club** supported new moms at Birth Haven by donating self-care items, cozy socks and more, plus baby clothes and hand-knitted baby blankets.

The **Washington Woman's Club** continues to support Veterans Haven North with pounds of coffee, and donated clothing and hand cream to their domestic violence shelter.

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## LIBERTY DISTRICT

**Ellen Lund**

It is with sadness that this District Vice President writes her last ALMANAC for the Liberty District. Thank you to all the Clubs who have contributed each month and made my job easy and fun.

The **Woman's Club of Allwood** will be organizing a birthday party in a bag, cake mix, icing, candles, paper goods, favors, and small gifts for Grandma's Place.

At their April meeting, **The Woman's Club of Arlington** is looking forward to hosting their annual baby shower for the Salvation Army.

**EMD of Arlington Woman's Club** will be having their Bunco on May 6<sup>th</sup> at the **Rutherford Woman's Club**. Tickets can be ordered at [wigsdigs031@gmail.com](mailto:wigsdigs031@gmail.com).

The **Junior Women's Club of Belleville** is hosting a local Spelling Bee. They are also participating in Read Across America in the local schools. Additionally, launching an Adopt a Pet reading initiative from March 2022 to March 2023.

It is Tricky Tray time for **The Woman's Club of Belleville** on April 21<sup>st</sup>. They will be celebrating their Centennial Anniversary on May 15<sup>th</sup>. And they continue to support the Safe House with an Easter celebration for the women and children who live there.

**Woman's Club of Berkeley Heights** will be holding their annual Spring Card Party/Luncheon Fundraiser on April 19<sup>th</sup>. Members will also be filling Easter eggs with candy for St. Joseph Social Services in Elizabeth. They also made puzzle books for the residents of Autumn Lake Rehabilitation and will provide them with Easter egg treats to enjoy.

## LIBERTY DISTRICT (Continued)

The **Women's Club of Caldwell** will be learning about the many health benefits of drinking tea. Two Hackensack Meridian Health educators will present a program on the "Art and Science of Tea". Attendees are requested to bring their favorite teacup (or coffee mug) to sample a variety of teas.

**Liberty District Past Presidents** meeting/luncheon will be held on April 19<sup>th</sup>.

Please join **The Lilies** on April 11<sup>th</sup> at Headquarters. They will be making Easter Baskets and tying blankets.

**Woman's Club of Little Falls** will be collecting cookies and candy for the St. Joseph's Home. They will also be holding a loving spoonful tea fundraiser. Their Warm Up America Ladies will be meeting to continue their work knitting and crocheting.

The **Woman's Club of Maplewood** will have a speaker from the Durand Hedden House who will present a program about the history of Maplewood.

**The Woman's Club of Verona** will be having a social with The Wooden Little Flower. They will be painting finishing touches on thin wooden flowers to create a small floral arrangement. They will also plant Pinwheels in front of their community center to bring awareness of child abuse.

## PALISADES DISTRICT

**Debbie Cibelli**

As spring has sprung...the Palisades District Clubs continue to bloom.

**Woman's Club of Carlstadt** had an at home tea fundraiser and an annual Brown Bag Sale.

**Woman's Club of Paramus** held a Bunco fundraiser, Free the Girls bra collection, and a spring craft planting seeds.

**Cresskill Woman's Club** will be setting up a pinwheel garden at the Cresskill Library for Child Abuse Prevention Month.

**New Milford Woman's Club** had some fun at their March meeting playing Bingo, sharing some snacks, and lots laughter.

**Contemporary Club of Hasbrouck Heights** organized and had a successful lunch time tricky tray.

**Junior Woman's Club of Harrington Park** put together and ran a town-wide Egg Hunt and a learn-to-knit night will be taking place later this spring.

**Woman's Club of Ridgefield Park** planted "Purple Pinwheel Gardens" for Child Abuse Prevention month, assembled Easter favors for Brightside Nursing Home, collected cereal, and the makings for 'Cereal from the Heart" for their Food Pantry and Feminine Hygiene products for high schools and battered women's shelter.

**Woman's Club of Emerson** collected 24 cans of soup and 45 pairs of socks and delivered to a soup kitchen and homeless shelter.

**Woman's Club of Leonia** had speaker Elizabeth Cady Stanton speak at their meeting where they invited seniors and town residents for an informative talk on Women's History Month.

**Woman's Club of Dumont** is working very hard on their upcoming Tricky Tray Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup>. Over 200 prizes, food, and fun at the Knights of Columbus Hall is expected.

**The Woman's Club of Westwood** collected used sneakers during the month of March.

**Woman's Club of River Edge** awarded scholarships to senior students of the High School in the name of a deceased member.

**RAMAPO DISTRICT****Marie Sullivan**

**Ramapo District Clubs** bloom throughout spring with all their community projects and continue to support Federation as well!

**Montville Township Woman's Club** continues to meet twice a month to go to Bingo together. This socialization has helped keep members together and in turn supports other organization's events.

**Allendale Woman's Club** will have a fashion show on April 27<sup>th</sup> which benefits Table to Table. They will also have a spring flower sale and a town wide garage sale that happen in May.

**Pines Lake Woman's Club members** are very happy to be entered in so many categories for Achievement Day after two years and they can't wait to hear the results at Spring Conference!

**Junior Woman's Club of Ramsey** is sooo busy: A local vendor at the Farmer's Market will be partnering to sell frozen pizzas!

- **Apr. 3<sup>r</sup>** Touch-a-Truck: They will be having a SPRING touch-a-truck event. Possible Easter Bunny sighting!
- **Apr. 9<sup>th</sup>** Ramsey Clean-Up Day where members will provide snacks and beverages to volunteers
- **Apr. 28<sup>th</sup>** Ladies Night Outdoor Bunco and Tricky Tray
- **May 12<sup>th</sup>** Main Street Scavenger Hunt for members and prospects.
- **May 30<sup>th</sup>** Memorial Day Wreath Presentation
- **June 1<sup>st</sup>** Outdoor Kids Jam at the Ramsey Pool (rain date 6/2)

**Saddle Brook Woman's Club** will be making 30 Easter Baskets for the SB Food Pantry. They will also be participating in the town Easter celebration and will be making care packages for the veterans at the Paramus Veterans Home, as a project for Memorial Day.

**Woman's Club of Ridgewood** is having a garage sale and will host a Fashion Talk from Kristin Dahl Fashions, KD Boutique. The Club continues keeping members active by hosting monthly Luncheons.

**Glen Rock Women in Community Service** makes Easter Baskets for Oasis in Paterson and the **Contemporary Club of Ho-Ho-Kus** will be having their annual Easter Egg Hunt for the community.

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

Happy spring, Easter, and Passover! The sun is shining, the flowers are blooming, the weather is beautiful, and the Shore District clubs are excited about life, love, friendships, and laughter. We enjoy our fundraisers, events, gatherings, book clubs, and new ideas. Thank you, NJSFWC President, Jan Hanson, for your unwavering leadership throughout the past two years. You kept us united and focused.

**Woman's Club of Colts Neck** members donated their spare change at every meeting for The Spare Change Project.

**Howell Woman's Club** is selling its Annual 50/50 Raffle tickets. This year's goal is \$3,500. Members are also collecting and donating Easter and Passover meals for the town's food bank. The new slate of officers is being presented to the club.

**Woman's Club of Lacey** is holding their second Calendar Club raffle in April, collecting cleaned mascara wands for the care of wildlife, gathering toys and art supplies for Operation Smile, and having an inter-generational meeting with Girl Scouts.

**Woman's Club of Matawan** is preparing Birthday Bags for 180 Turning Lives Around and completing a candy/cookie project for the Food pantry. They are excited about their entries in the Achievement Day contests.

**Woman's Club of Middletown** is offering Therapy Dolls to the residents of Brighton Gardens.



## SHORE DISTRICT (Continued)

**Woman's Club of Point Pleasant** is holding a Bunco fundraiser in April. Members are also participating in Achievement Day/Spring Conference and enjoy their monthly Book Club.

**Woman's Club of Spring Lake** is looking forward to Spring Conference and Convention. Plans are in place for the May 19<sup>th</sup> Spring Luncheon to award scholarships and install the new officers.

**Stafford Township Woman's Club** is having a Dime a Door fundraiser, a Valentine Basket to raffle, a Cake by the Slice sale, and a Hotdog Lunch Picnic.

## SOUTHERN DISTRICT

**Pamela McNamee**

With the welcoming of spring and the relaxing of COVID-19 restrictions many clubs are eagerly planning in-person meetings and activities.

**Absecon Woman's Club** will be collecting items for the Woman's Shelter. They will also co-host the Southern District Creative Arts Day. May's installation dinner will be at Smithville Inn and new officers will reorganize in June.

**Colony Club of Ocean City** will co-host the Southern District Creative Arts Day. A fundraiser is planned at Randazzo's Restaurant. Money raised is earmarked for outreach and scholarship. Members will take part in the 16<sup>th</sup> Street beach clean-up. In May they will sell juice boxes and water bottles to raise money for Operation Chillout and stockings will be distributed to members to fill for Operation Yellow Ribbon.

**Country Shore Women's Club** will be hosting a Native Plant and Pollinators program with Dawn Pogoseaw. They will also have a representative from Lasagna Love as a speaker and will participate in the Southern District Creative Achievement Day. May's event will be a Murder Mystery Dinner – Burritos Banditos.

**Woman's Civic Club of Hammonton** is planning fundraisers to help defray the costs of club renovations. Plans are underway for the end of the year dinner in May.

**Millville Woman's Club** will enjoy the annual birthday bash listening to the Millville Woman's Club Chorus. The monthly book discussion, and the Creative Arts Day, as well as the Spring Fling Game Day take place in April.

**The Woman's Club of Vineland** are collecting items for Gilda's Club. April's program is by the AC Press' meteorologist, Joe Martucci. Members will also collect supplies for the local animal shelter. To welcome new members, the club will host a Blossom Tea. June will be their Summer Salad Supper and President's Luncheon.

## THE ARTS AND CULTURE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

**Lynn Webb**

This Chairman found two projects for your clubs to work on during the spring weather. One is from **The Haddon Fortnightly EMD**. They reported in their narrative to make "upcycled, ecofriendly, braided pet toys." They donated these toys to an Animal Adoption Center. Here are the directions to create one for your own pet or donate it in your community:

- ❖ Lay an old T-shirt flat and cut along the side seams to separate the front from the back. You can leave the sleeves attached to make your strips longer or separate them and make some shorter strips for tying the ends.
- ❖ Start cutting three-inch slits at the bottom that are roughly two to three inches wide.
- ❖ You should be able to rip the strips the rest of the way, but if the fabric is being stubborn, just keep cutting until you have a handful of long strips to work with.
- ❖ Gather the strips and tie one large basic knot.
- ❖ Separate the strips into three equal sections and braid until you have about three inches remaining, then tie off the end with another knot. Now you're ready to spend the afternoon playing with your pup.
- ❖ Feel free to use multiple T-shirts to create a more colorful or thicker toy.

## THE ARTS AND CULTURE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM (Continued)

The second project is sewing squares for the 2022 National Block Drive. See enclosed flyer for directions:

The "Floating Churn Dash" square has been chosen for the Quilt of Valor Foundation. A quilt of valor is sewn for any service member or veteran who has been touched by war. This quilt gives comfort and healing to the person and is presented as an award for their service. If your club, decides to sew a block, please keep track for the 2022 reporting under Arts and Culture and share how many you make. Write a narrative about this experience. Please send the squares to this Chairman's attention at Headquarters unless you belong to a quilter's guild and you plan on sewing a quilt of valor (60 x 80 is the recommended size). These quilts are documented on the Quilt of Valor Foundation (<https://www.qovf.org/>) website.

## THE ARTS/PERFORMING COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

**Rosemarie Saviello**

The Arts Performance District Awards for reports will be announced at Spring Conference. Thank you to all who submitted reports and narratives. The **Marlton Woman's Club** (Garden District) put a new twist on their report with the narrative written in Poetry form. This report covered all their projects and was fun to read.

Poetry was a prominent in many clubs; the **West Essex Woman's Club** (Liberty District) promoted poetry by having poetry readings at one of their meetings. They selected poems to read during a meeting and discussed meanings and/or messages within the poems.

COVID is still playing a big part in the theater world. Our members, specifically, **The Haddon Fortnightly Woman's Club** (Garden District) reported theater productions in their area every month at a club meeting. Their Arts Performing Chairman kept all up to date by advising everyone of all performances in their area including information about COVID restrictions.

Good news! Broadway shows in New York are now open. Many of you will be happy to hear this.

Thank you to all who entered the Creative Writing Contest. Winners will be announced at Convention.

## CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

**Gail Kovacs-Felici**

Grocery coupons for military personnel around the world are needed. The coupons can be up to 6 months after their expiration date. However, no "in-store" coupons can be sent. All coupons should be clipped close to their margins, as this helps with the weight of the package. Priority Mail – 14.5" x 11.5" flexible paper envelopes are requested. The PS Form 2976, available at post offices, should be filled out as well.

Coupons should be sorted into food and non-food, zip lock bags work well for this. If at all possible, it would also help the on-site coordinators to have the coupons sorted by expiration month. The most needed of coupons are:

Food: dairy, bread, canned goods, beverages, water, candy, gum, meat and frozen foods.

Non-food: baby/child care, cleaners, toiletries, make up, paper products, vitamins, medicines and pet food.

Included in this ALMANAC is a list of the current Air Force, Army, Navy & Marine military bases that will accept coupons. *Happy Clipping!*

## EDUCATION AND LIBRARIES COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

**Brandi-Leigh Miller**

On Wednesday, May 13, 2021 at 7:00 pm, NJSFWC ESO Chairman Pat Trainor will host an online book discussion via Zoom. The final book in our two-year discussion series will be *announced in an upcoming eConnection*.

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

## EDUCATION AND LIBRARIES COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM (Continued)

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, you 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!!**
6. Cool down by making [Ice Cream in a Bag](#). The simple technique produces delicious ice cream in about 5 minutes. What ice cream varieties will you and your child concoct? **SCIENCE IS EVERYWHERE!**
7. Read aloud a selection from [Candlelight Storybooks](#) or your own favorite myths or fairy tales. Discuss the stories with your child. Then invite your child to choose a favorite story, and together make a diorama depicting a pivotal moment in the tale.
8. Catch a firefly and then go online to [learn more about fireflies](#) or read a book, such as [Fireflies](#) by Sally M. Walker, to help your child learn more about them. Then invite your child to complete the Education World [Firefly Facts](#) work sheet. **Entomology is SCIENCE!**

(Firefly Facts Answers:

Fireflies are really beetles because they have four wings; true flies only have two wings.

Most fireflies like warm, humid areas.

In the United States, glowing fireflies are found east of the middle of Kansas.

Firefly larvae feed mostly on earthworms, snails, and slugs.

Scientists believe fireflies use their ability to flash as a warning signal to predators and to attract mates.

9. Print a grid of dots from [Connect the Dots](#) by [Math Cats](#) and invite your child to make an original tessellation. **MATH!**
10. Start a rock collection. [Collecting Rocks](#), a Web site by the U. S. Geological Survey, offers advice to help the novice collector gather, identify, and store neat rock specimens. The Audubon Society Pocket Guide [Familiar Rocks and Minerals North America](#) will help children identify and label the rocks and minerals they find. **Geology is SCIENCE TOO!!**

## EDUCATION AND LIBRARIES COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM (Continued)

11. Plan with your child a family activity day. Decide how much money to spend, and help your child research events and activities in your area and choose an affordable activity the whole family can enjoy. Remind your child to be sure to allow enough time for the activity, and to remember to include food in the day's plan. (This online [Kids Party Checklist](#) will help.) Don't forget to bring a camera and take lots of pictures. Your child can mount and label each photo and create a family scrapbook of your special day. You might provide the questions below to help guide your child's thoughts as they plan this special day.
  - Describe the event or activity your family will attend.
  - Will everyone in the family enjoy this activity? Why do you think so?
  - What do you need to arrange ahead of time? Will you need to purchase tickets? Pack a lunch? Make reservations?
  - What supplies or materials will you need?
  - What costs will be involved?
12. Take a virtual [Campus Tour](#) of colleges and universities your high school student might be considering. Tour the schools' grounds, look at maps, view videos and photos, and request information about those institutions of higher learning. If you don't have Internet access at home, take your tour at the local library.
13. Have your child follow instructions to [Build the Best Paper Airplane in the World](#). Then ask your child to design an original paper airplane and diagram the steps for constructing it, so another family member can recreate it! **ENGINEERING and MATH!**

## ENVIRONMENT COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

Dawn Pogosaew

Partnering with your municipalities Green Team is a great way to help your community. Sustainable Jersey was developed in 2009 and today there are 463 registered municipalities. You can find out if your community has a Green Team by going to [www.sustainablejersey.com](http://www.sustainablejersey.com) and search the map of participating municipalities. The Green Teams must complete environmental actions in order to obtain the Sustainable Jersey Certification. Your clubs' environmental projects that are completed throughout the year may help your community to reach its goals. The website also offers many areas of environmental actions, Animals in the Community (both domestic and wild), Food (creating Farmers Markets, Community Gardens, and Food Pantry), Water Conservation, Health and Wellness, Arts and Culture. Many guidelines so that you and your municipality can take steps to make your community more sustainable.

The **Contemporary Club of Hasbrouck Heights** worked with their Green team by attending a spring/fall cleanup removing trash on the side of the roads. They also tabled an event at a community Environmental Education Day, displaying recyclable plastic containers and providing recycling education to their community by encouraging them to reduce, reuse, and recycle. Another club, The **Thursday Morning Club** worked with Friends of Madison Shade Trees, Inc. and their local Girl Scouts to plant 250 trees at the Madison Recreation Complex to create a buffer between the complex and a busy road. Both projects can contribute to your Green Team meeting requirements towards reaching sustainability goals.

Each community has environmental areas of concern. Actions taken by creating a dog park, pollinator or wildlife garden, tree plantings, outreach programs on recycling or water conservation, and supporting community cleanup days can all contribute to your communities' goals. Check with your local Green Team to see what actions they are taking. Have the members give a presentation at a club meeting and see where your clubs' environmental projects can contribute to creating a Sustainable New Jersey.

## HEALTH AND WELLNESS COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

Claire Hill

Springtime is a great time to team up with friends and walk in the park. Check out what local parks have walking trails and you may be able to bring a healthy picnic, and take time to socialize with members.

Remember Operation Smile, Heifer and UNICEF, all GFWC affiliates for your 2022 work. Visit their websites for donation information. Ask a club member to research each non-profit and report back to your club.

## HEALTH AND WELLNESS COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM (Continued)

Blankets, smile bags, and pillows for cancer patients are all appreciated. Please keep up the good work, and don't forget to report all the hours invested in sewing, knitting and creating your projects.

Check websites for various walks, such as Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, [jdrf.org](http://jdrf.org), Alzheimer's, NAMI and Prevent Child Abuse NJ (PCANJ). All have walks scheduled during the spring and summer.

It is always fun to join up with members and support these organizations.

## ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN

**Jane Mackesy**

Here is an update to the January Bulletin regarding Hat Not Hate. This Chairman purchased the Hat Not Hate Loom from Michaels and have nearly completed a hat! This Chairman hasn't done any knitting or crocheting since she was a kid. It is very easy once you get going. It is designed for Kids, so she guessed that it should be easy.

This might be a project that your club could do with a group of kids. They can become part of what is called The Blue Army- fighting bullying. You could purchase the looms and teach the kids how to use them. There is enough yarn included to make 2 hats. One to wear, and one to donate. Use social media to share your project using #hatnothate.

According to the website you can mail the hats to:

Lion Brand Yarn Company  
140 Kero Road  
Carlstadt, NJ 07022

Below are New Jersey drop off sites. Please check with them to be sure that they will still accept them.

### Yarn Attic

Yarn Attic  
406 Route 206  
Hillsborough, NJ 08844  
(908) 864-5311  
[www.theyarnattic.com](http://www.theyarnattic.com)

Shear Magic  
2393 Mountain Avenue  
Scotch Plains, NJ 07076  
(908) 889-5515  
[facebook.com/Shear-Magic](https://facebook.com/Shear-Magic)

Balzac Fibers  
48 Main Ave,  
Ocean Grove, NJ 07756  
(732) 898-6898  
[www.balzacfibers.com](http://www.balzacfibers.com)

## BYLAWS

**Vivien S. Finn**

Amendments to the NJSFWC Bylaws will be presented at the Business Session of our Annual Convention on Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup> and voted on at that time. The Amendments have been endorsed by the Bylaws Committee and the NJSFWC Board of Directors.

Club Presidents have received a copy of the Proposed Amendments which were enclosed in the CALL to Convention. They should give their Delegates a copy of the Proposed Amendments in order that they familiarize themselves with them in order 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 NJSFWC's 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 Marie DiMatties, Kathy Pavalkis, Jean Revis, Carol Swinburne and Ex-officio members, Jan Hanson, Susan Chambers and Ann Quinn.

## COMMUNICATIONS

Carole Speechley

### Some Ideas from Your Reports:

- During the pandemic, many women were looking for something meaningful to do. Clubs that publicized their social service projects found that women in their community were interested in helping and some even got new members from it. Consider planning a hands-on project to help others and invite the public to help you. Advertise it ahead of time just like you would a fundraiser.
- The best way to get your club in your local paper is to form a relationship with your local reporters and make them aware of all your club does for the community. One club did this by asking their members to follow on Facebook the TV personality that handled local news. This got them mentioned on her program. Clubs that have this connection are more likely to have a photographer at events and even some meetings.
- The NJSFWC Board and some clubs have gone to hybrid meetings – meetings with some members' in-person and others still on Zoom. If some of your members are still uncomfortable with in-person meetings, your club might want to try this. One club actually purchased a big screen for those on Zoom. Another added wi-fi to their clubhouse.
- Banners, the bigger and more eye-catching the better, help draw attention to your club.
- Brand your club. Display your logo at everything you do and on all your flyers. Proudly wear your club shirts at town days and your fundraisers.

### The End of an Administration

This administration comes to an end with Convention and a new theme will replace "Let Our Voices Soar". But it's VERY IMPORTANT that your club makes its voice heard in your community. So PLEASE continue to **Let Your Voices Soar**, because what you do matters and deserves to be heard.

## CONVENTION

Susan Fosdick

### Happenings on Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>

An informative Treasurer's Workshop has been scheduled in Salon 4 from 8:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.

Achievement Day Entries **must be** picked up between 8:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. in Salon 2.

Our closing Business Session will begin promptly at 9:30 a.m. at which time the doors will be closed for the very moving "In Memoriam" Ceremony. This special ceremony recognizes former State Board members who have passed away during the past year.

You won't want to miss hearing from a representative of the organization that President-elect Holly has selected to be the 2022-2024 administration's Special State Project. We will learn what and how our clubs are able to support them.

The morning business session will conclude with our Honor Roll and Order of the Lily ceremonies followed by all joining hands and singing "Let There Be Peace on Earth – and Let It Begin with Me"

## CREDENTIALS AND REGISTRATION

Cynthia A. Blumenkrantz

This Chairman is confident that all registration and meal request forms have been mailed to each club President in the CALL to Convention. By this time we hope that you have filled out your club Attendee and Delegate forms and signed up for Workshops, and have sent your choices in with one Club check. Workshops will be entered by the date received by this Chairman and any requests sent after the workshop is filled, will be notified.

## CREDENTIALS AND REGISTRATION (Continued)

Any registration mailed between March 31<sup>st</sup> and April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022 will be accepted with the added \$10.00 late fee. (A one day registration would add a \$5.00 late fee). There will be NO registrations accepted postmarked after April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022. There will be no refunds.

Convention forms may be found under Materials on the NJFWC website. No voting forms will be re-mailed. All Presidents have received all the necessary documents.

During Convention, On-Site registration for members, guests, and visitors will be \$20.00 for one day and \$40.00 for two or more days. Payment must be either cash or Club check. The Credentials and Registration Committee will wear something distinctive to spot us for questions or assistance with your registration needs.

Registration times will be Saturday, 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.; Sunday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and 5:00p.m. to 6:00 p.m.; Monday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.; and Tuesday 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

All attendees, including Delegates, Alternates, Members, Guests and Visitors must register as soon after their arrival as possible. A Delegate must be registered by 10:00 a.m. to be eligible to vote in the election. Each Delegate and Alternate must pick up her own credential card and meal tickets. Credentials must be worn at all meetings, programs, workshops and Exhibits.

If an Alternate is to become a Delegate, this change can only be made by the Credentials and Registration Chairman at the Registration Desk, by 10:00 a. m. on Monday. Only Delegates are permitted to vote at the Business Sessions. Delegates and Alternates must be listed on the Voting Registration Sheet returned by the Clubs.

This Chairman and her Committee are looking forward to registering everyone at Convention, April 24-26, 2022!

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## GIRLS' CAREER INSTITUTE

Mary Kay Tokar

Thank you to all the clubs who have completed the Girls' Career Institute Delegate/Alternate selection process. Even in uncertain times, clubs sent funds to register Delegates/Alternates. This Director was pleasantly surprised at how many clubs met each deadline and in many cases were even early. A few clubs needed deadline extensions, but all were so courteous in asking for those extensions when unforeseen complications arose. Due to the late notice that the program was approved, our numbers are down a bit. There are still a few spots open, if any club would like to fund additional Delegates.

Another big thank you goes to all the clubs who sent in full or partial scholarship funds to allow a girl from an underserved area to attend and to those who sent in money for supplies, snacks, and other expenses that always occur.

The March 31<sup>st</sup> deadline for Online Registration worked well. This process is easier and more accurate than mailing paperwork back and forth, and chasing down missing forms, or signatures. Mid-March Clubs who selected Delegates will be notified if their Delegate has not yet registered.

District Vice Presidents (DVPs) will receive the roster of Delegates and Alternates for their District at the April 12<sup>th</sup> NJFWC Board Meeting. This will give the DVPs adequate time to address and mail Orientation Reception invitations to every Delegate **AND** Alternate. Parents or guardians are encouraged to attend. Each District Club President and GCI Coordinator should also receive an invitation to the event. A response (**RSVP**), either negative or positive, is both polite and expected from each person receiving an invitation. In the event a Delegate or Alternate cannot attend an Orientation Reception because of a conflict (Prom, exam, work, scheduling conflict etc.) she can be offered the option of attending Orientation Reception in another District. If a girl will attend in another District, please advise this Director and the DVP counterpart. If attending in another District is not an option for a particular girl, a parent may attend to get the valuable information to be provided at that event.

This year, this Director intends to be at each Orientation Reception

If you have snacks, craft supplies, fleece, hotel size toiletries, or other items to make GCI the best place to be June 6-9, 2022 you can bring/send them to this Director at Convention, your District GCI Orientation Reception, or leave at Headquarters. Please mark clearly FOR GCI and your club name.

## HISTORIAN

Maribeth Hugelmeyer

### Did you know about our TIME CAPSULE????

The NJSFWC celebrated its Centennial Anniversary on November 16, 1994, during the administration of Dorothy Lowe Green (1994-1996). It was a year filled with celebrations, all culminating on that special day at Headquarters.

The highlight of the day was the filling of the Time Capsule, which is expected to be opened in 100 years. This Time Capsule was donated by the Past Presidents' Club of the Fourth District. It is enclosed with a Plexiglas cover and hung on a wooden plaque. It can be found in the Federation Library, on the wall over the desk.

There are 26 types of items in this capsule. Here are just a few:

- 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Program of Headquarters Building Program, January 6, 1994, Premiere Event
- Set of NJSFWC Supplements (1992-94 and 1994-96)
- Picture of the Centennial Flag
- State Yearbooks (1993-94 and 1994-95)
- Issue of the ALMANAC (January 1994)
- Issue of CLUBWOMAN (1944)
- Picture of the Float in Miss America Parade (September 1994)
- Picture of Headquarters Building and Book of Green Stamps
- NJSFWC Centennial Celebration Pin and the Collect.

The full list of items can be found in the January 1995 ALMANAC issue. Please make sure that the next time you visit Headquarters that you stop in the library and take a look.

This is the last ALMANAC article from this NJSFWC Historian. She hopes that you have enjoyed reading the *moments in history* as much as she has enjoyed sharing them with you.

## 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 will be honored at the NJSFWC Convention on Sunday April 24<sup>th</sup> at the evening banquet. The Cecilia Gaines Holland recipient will be presented at the banquet on Monday evening, and the Honor Roll and Order of the Lily ceremony will take place Tuesday morning April 26<sup>th</sup>.

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, and 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 letter will be sent to the honoree notifying her or him of this recognition.

Memorials for a deceased clubwoman or club friend 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.

Lastly, this Chairman would like to thank Christine Jablonsky, Women of Achievement Chairman, for her excellent execution of the Women of Achievement selection process and Kim Otto for serving as Honors Vice-Chairman. It has been a pleasure working with both of these very gracious, competent women.



**LEGISLATION/RESOLUTIONS****Chris Sienkielewski**

Did you realize that GFWC have resolutions that every member may be able to lend their voice to issues that affect our nation and even around the world? And GFWC makes it very easy to access the Resolutions that are currently in Congress with the GFWC Legislative Action Center. It is a very powerful tool that helps you navigate through legislation and issues that are germane to GFWC's Resolutions. And every club member can join the Action Center.

If you haven't signed up just go to [GFWC.org](http://GFWC.org) and look under the heading that says "WHAT WE DO". Click on "Legislation/Public Policy" and scroll down to Legislative Action Center. You can fill out the information and alerts will be sent directly to your mailbox. Once on that area, you can send an email directly to your representative. And the best part – the email is already written for you AND you can add your own message to it.

There are a few pieces of legislation that are of great interest right now on the floor of Congress:

- Eliminating Abusive and Rampant Neglect of Technologies Act (EARN IT Act, S3538): A long title to a bill that would remove immunity for social media and technology companies that knowingly facilitates the distribution of child sexual materials on their platforms. The bill updates existing federal statutes to use the term "child sexual abuse material", instead of "child pornography" since the term child pornography fails to describe the true nature of the images and undermines the seriousness of the abuse. It also establishes a commission of survivors, technology representatives, and government stakeholders to create recommendations and best practices for technology companies to respond to the global pandemic of online sexual exploitation of children.
- Protect Funding for Victims of Crime (H.R. 1652, The Victims of Crime Act –VOCA): this bill will restore and increase critical funding to the Crime Victims Fund which provides grants to state and local programs that assist victims of crime.

Your clubs can take some time to talk about these bills and even sign your members up for the GFWC Legislative Action Center at a meeting. April and May are great times to do this while enjoying the spring weather.

**SPECIAL STATE PROJECT****Patricia Dahl**

This Chairman thanks all the members who attended the Northern Special State Project fundraiser, the Wine and Cheese. It was a GREAT day!

The three Bunco fundraisers are over as well in the College, Palisades, and Shore Districts. It was a lot of fun. The District Chairmen did a wonderful job. We still have one more to go in the Liberty District on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022, at the Upper Montclair Clubhouse. This is your last chance to play Bunco that will support the Special State Project.

**THIS IS YOUR LAST REMINDER, DO YOU HAVE YOUR QUILT RAFFLE TICKETS!!! CONVENTION IS AT THE END OF THE MONTH AND YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS OUT!! BUY YOUR TICKETS!!!** Tickets will be available at Convention.

Operation Chillout will again be having their online summer campaign. Go to their website and donate \$10 for water, hats, and T-shirts. Consider supporting their efforts again to help the homeless veterans.

The Zoom meeting, held with Deacon Ray Chimileski from Operation Chillout, brought about something we would like any member in the state to help with. They would like us to Reach Out and find contacts for them with other Veterans group. Some members may already know someone that works with a group that could help Operation Chillout or the other way around. They are especially looking for contacts in the southern counties of the state, such as Camden, Gloucester, Salem, Cape May and Atlantic to name a few. If you can help with a name, phone number and/or location please let this Chairman know or Operation Chillout directly. Operation Chillout is an all-Volunteer group and wants to help veterans. We can help them.

Also, this Chairman has a project that all clubs can do. The Highlands District and the **GFWC Woman's Club of West Deptford** asked their members to donate \$.50 for every pair of shoes they owned. These donations were designed to encourage their members to appreciate what they have in comparison to the homeless veterans who may not have more than one pair of shoes. This chairman spent \$10 for her shoes.

## WEBMASTER

Denise Hosier

You can get emails when new results for any topic show up in Google Search. For example, you can get info about news, products, or mentions of your name. It is a good way to follow your club and find out if your Press Releases are being used online.

### How to Create a Google Alert

- First, you must be signed into your Google account. If you have a gmail email address, you are probably already signed in. If not, sign into an existing Google account or create a new one.
- Go to Google Alerts, <https://www.google.com/alerts>.
- In the box at the top, enter a topic you want to follow, for example, your club's name.
- Click on "Show Options" and select how often you want to receive alerts, how many results you want, and the email address to send the alerts to.
- Click on "Create Alert."

Now you will get an email each time your club's name appears on the Internet.

### To Change Settings or Delete an Alert

- Be sure you're signed into your Google account.
- Go back to Google Alerts, <https://www.google.com/alerts>.
- You will see your existing alerts. Just click on the trash can icon to delete an alert or the little pencil icon to edit the alert. You can also change the options.
- Make your changes.
- Click "Update Alert."

By using Google alerts, you will always know when your club name appears on the Internet.

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## GRANT WRITING

Carol Niemiec

Grant writing takes time, persistence and plenty of research. If your club is seeking funds in lieu of fundraising during this ongoing Pandemic, Grant writing might be a good option. To do so, here are some basic tips that might be helpful.

It is more beneficial to target fewer organizations with a well-written proposal, than sending out multiple hazardous proposals to random sources. Define your needs and focus on the subject areas that meet your needs.

Before applying to any Foundation, be sure to see that **your Club project needing funding, matches the Foundations criteria** and if they require an application or letter of inquiry first, before receiving your proposal. Also, determine when the deadlines are for the submission of a proposal and follow their schedule. Be sure to confirm if the foundation requires multiple copies of your proposal and how they prefer it sent either by regular USPS mail or e-mail.

Banks and major corporations can be a good source of grant money. Research websites carefully and check for Grant guidelines. Some Foundations give a list of recent grantees which might give you some insight also. Try your own local area banks and the banks you yourself do business with. It doesn't hurt to ask your local bank representative about available Grants, this Chairman has found them to be courteous and helpful. Remember, Proposals are read by individuals who spend many hours reading and evaluating documents. Try to keep the Proposal interesting using key words and simple English. Keep your sentences short and to the point. Do not assume the reader is as familiar with the subject matter as you. Be sure there is a logical flow of information without excessive detail and repetition. Proposals can be up to 3 pages long, depending on the Foundation instructions. Lastly, you may be asked for a copy of your club's 501c3 Letter of Determination, recent budget, and a copy of your audit report, so check the Foundation's requirements carefully. If you have questions, please feel free to contact this chairman at [niemiec@njsfwc.org](mailto:niemiec@njsfwc.org).

**LEGACY****Laura Badger**

President Hanson began her administration with a vision to establish a Legacy Planned Giving Circle within the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Club. Two years later, the Legacy program has become a reality with several Federation Women joining the Legacy Planned Giving Circle.

The Legacy Planned Giving Circle Pledge by a Club Woman can be submitted to Headquarters on the form in the February ALMANAC. Your pledge is private except to be acknowledged by the Federation with a small token of thanks if you desire. The administration's position is that you should not send copies of wills or declarations to Headquarters or the Legacy Chairman. The administration and Legacy committee will not announce your name or your intentions.

Questions can be submitted to the Legacy Chairman by email or phone. The 2022-2024 Chairman will be announced following the Annual Convention the end of April. We suggest you consult your legal and financial advisors for their professional guidance.

The NJSFWC of GFWC Mission Statement is: "The New Jersey State Federation of Women's Club of GFWC provides opportunities for education, leadership training, and community service through participation in local clubs, enabling members to make a difference in the lives of others one project at a time".

With the mission in mind ..... The Legacy of Clubwomen will live on!

**Rutgers Food Pantry**

Thank you to everyone who donated food to the Rutgers Food Pantry. We were able to deliver 4 carloads of food and the people running the Pantry were overwhelmed and very grateful. There was an additional 1029 items donated that were not itemized for a total of 2301 items.

<b>Item</b>	<b># of items</b>	<b>item</b>	<b># of items</b>
dry soup	5	sanitizer	53
milk	27	juice	13
oatmeal	188	canned meat	86
rice	77	broth	62
pasta	38	misc	28
peanut butter	81	jelly	5
snack bags	25	ramen noodles	82
soup	214	playing cards	23
fruit	17	coffee	3
cereal bars	154	dry beans	5
cereal	103		