

WOMEN'S HISTORY SUPPLEMENT 2024-2026

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NJSFWC

The NJSFWC Women's History Supplement consists of information for GFWC Women 's History and Research Center (WHRC), suggestions, projects, donations, club outings, and landmarks.

- The NJSFWC Women's History Supplement consists of suggestions, how to find and record your club's history, and how to become a member of the NJSFWC 1894 Society.
- If you would like to become a member of the NJSFWC 1894 Society, donate \$18.94, \$189.40, \$1894.00 or any amount greater than \$18.94 to augment funding for the annual rent paid to Rutgers University. Your contributions are tax deductible and should be recorded in Report Writing in January. Checks should be made payable to NJSFWC, indicate 1894 on your check, and mail it to NJSFWC, 55 Labor Center Way, New Brunswick NJ 08901, or you can give it directly to this chairman.
- Your club Historian can share the history of NJSFWC since 1894, document and record your club's present-day activities through articles, interviews, scrapbooks, and photographs. If you promote your club online, save it to a thumb drive for your club's history. Writing a few sentences in your club newsletter can be very informative to members and recorded in your clubs Report Writing in January.
- Identify and preserve the history of your club by collecting your archival records, finding a local repository, and allowing your records to be made available for research. Your local library or historical society building, or museum might be considered. Create a link to these records on the club's website. Arrange a club outing to a NJ Historical Site listed below or have a meeting at Headquarters. Partner with the Historical Society on a project and document this when Report Writing comes around in January.
- Interview individual club members and former club members to record oral histories of club/community work in the past. Examples might include interviewing a woman who was a club member for the longest time, a member who was particularly active in certain projects benefiting the community, or a member who was a pioneer (i.e., started local Historical Society, spearheaded an environmental effort, established a Domestic Violence shelter, first woman on Board of Education, town mayor, and/or Borough Council member.) Interview members who received the Honor Roll Award or the Order of the Lily Award. All these projects should be shared in Report Writing.
- Research the history of local public buildings, such as libraries or schools, studying architecture, funding, renovations. Arrange for a club tour or invite a speaker to a club meeting.
- Purchase a copy of the latest edition of NJSFWC Club Histories, **From the Beginning: A Page of History, Volume II.** Donate a copy to your local library and have a reference copy for your club. The cost is \$10 while supplies last, (add \$5 for shipping). This can be obtained through NJSFWC Headquarters or at NJSFWC State and District Events. (Woman's History and Resource Center)
- NJSFWC pins are available to celebrate the History of your members, say thank you with a pin. Order forms, pictures, and prices can be found at <https://njsfwc.org/store/pins/>.

GFWC

- The GFWC Women's History and Research Center (WHRC), founded in 1984, consists of an archival collection containing the records of GFWC since 1890. The archives contain GFWC International Presidents papers, photographs, and program records, as examples. To access the archives, go to <https://www.gfwc.org/what-we-do/whrc>. Contributions are tax deductible payable to GFWC. To help preserve the history of GFWC, in the memo line of your check write "WHRC" and payable and sent to: GFWC, 1734 N Street NW, Washington, DC 20036-2990
- Become a member of the GFWC 1734 Society, which ensures the preservation of GFWC Headquarters, a National Historic Landmark. Annual donations of \$17.34, \$173.40, \$1734.00 or

any amount greater than \$17.34 are tax deductible and used to maintain the structural integrity of this historic building which continues to serve as a vital center for women's issues and outreach. Send donations to GFWC, 1734 Society, GFWC Headquarters, 1734 N Street NW Washington, D.C. 20036-2990.

- Review the 2024-2026 GFWC Club Manual Women's History and Resource Center section for additional project ideas and resources at <https://www.gfwc.org/what-we-do/whrc>.
- A free to the public National Coast Guard Museum in New London, CT is being constructed to tell the incredible 230-year Coast Guard history. The grand opening is anticipated for 2026 and GFWC members can donate online at coastguardmuseum.org/gfwc. Pavers are also available with your unique inscription at <https://cgmuseumpavers.com/#/about>.

Women Have a Story to Tell

- Nominate prominent clubwomen to the National Women's Hall of Fame. For \$250, an extraordinary woman can be honored in the National Women's Hall of Fame online **Book of Lives and Legacies**. Each woman honored is given a page in the book. A one to three-page letter, including pictures, is submitted citing accomplishments. This will be a permanent, enduring electronic record, also available for all to view at the National Women's Hall of Fame in Seneca, NY. A commemorative plaque will be sent to the recipient, as well as a gift of one year's-membership in the Hall of Fame. Application procedures are available online at www.greatwomen.org. Arrange for a group visit to the Hall of Fame on the website or contact National Women's Hall of Fame, PO Box 335, Seneca Falls, NY 13148. Telephone 315-568-6060.
- Research the lives and accomplishments of local community or state women of the past. An example would be to learn more about "Mabel Smith Douglass", and the work of the NJSFWC in founding the New Jersey College for Women, later to be renamed Douglass College. Hold a public ceremony honoring the researched women and their achievements.
- Your club has accomplishments. In your monthly newsletter acquaint your club with these accomplishments and Federation endeavors of Past NJSFWC & GFWC Presidents,
- Purchase a copy of *A Century of Challenge, New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs First 100 Years*, through the NJSFWC Federation Headquarters.

Women's History Month/National Women's History Project

- Celebrate National Women's History Month (March) in your club. Contact the National Women's History Alliance for project ideas and materials at 730 Second Street #469, P.O. Box 469, Santa Rosa, CA 95402. You can also call or email at 707-636-2888, or at www.nwhp.org.
- An easy way to celebrate is to share articles, infographics, inspiring quotes, videos, and other women-centric content on your social media.

Preservation and Awareness of Women's History Landmarks

- Visit NJSFWC Headquarters in New Brunswick, NJ, our federation home built in 1965. Each club is encouraged to hold a meeting at Headquarters once a year. Contact the NJSFWC Executive Assistant at 732-249-5474 to arrange a date.
- Visit and/or donate towards the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial at 5400 Ox Road, Fairfax Station, VA 22036. Email: suffragistmemorial.org for information.
- Visit Jane Cunningham Crowley's gravesite, located at the Evergreen Cemetery, Route 9, Lakewood, NJ.
- Visit the Watch Tower in Federation Park on the Palisades in Alpine, NJ. The Monument was built to honor Federation for all it had done to save the Palisades, <https://savingplaces.org/places/the-palisades>.

Historic Sites in NJ/Plan a Club Outing

- **NJ Women's Heritage Trail:** The stories of women's lives and accomplishments, big and small, are embedded in every aspect of New Jersey's past. Beginning with New Jersey's native inhabitants, women haven contributed to the state's economy, political life, education, scientific advances, the arts, culture, and religious life. Learn their stories by visiting the historic sites and landscapes that honor their contributions and struggles.
<https://www.journeythroughjersey.com/sites/theme/womens-heritage/>

- **Many Faces of NJ:** New Jersey is the most diverse state in the nation. Its immigrant roots go back to the first Native American settlers, about 10,000 years ago, and continues today as people from near and far settle here. Learn their stories by visiting the historic sites that honor the contributions and struggles of immigrants from around the globe.
<https://www.journeythroughjersey.com/sites/theme/many-faces/>
- **Revolutionary Women – New Jersey Women’s Heritage:** Learn about revolutionary women of Monmouth County. Visit the historic sites and attractions that depict and honor the accomplishments of women who helped shape the country. Along the way, enhance your journey with roadside attractions and must-see extras that embrace women’s history and demonstrate how New Jersey is unlike any other state in the country.
<https://www.journeythroughjersey.com/sites/plan-visit/itineraries/revolutionary-women/>
- **NJ At Work:** Industry and creative innovation shaped New Jersey and helped transform the world. Home to Edison’s light bulb and phonograph, among other important inventions, the state is also the location of the nation’s first planned industrial city – Paterson.
<https://www.journeythroughjersey.com/sites/theme/work/>
- **NJ In Conflict/History** New Jersey may be best known for its critical role in the War for Independence, but the state also made significant contributions to the country’s other conflicts. Discover these stories at important defense installations, military training grounds, innovative research labs, and memorials to the men and women who served their country.
<https://www.journeythroughjersey.com/sites/theme/conflict/>