

NEW JERSEY STATE FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS
Women's History Report
Top Ten Projects 2024

1. The president of the **GFWC Woman's Club of West Deptford**, with 59 members, recently established a History Committee comprising five members. Inspired by an article from the state historian published in the ALMANAC, the club's state newsletter, the committee set out to make the process of digitizing club records both enjoyable and engaging. With the participation of several members, including past presidents, the committee gathered records dating back to the club's founding in 1993. They digitized the documents while retaining only the essential hard copies. These hard copies are now securely stored in a newly purchased four-drawer cabinet at the Community Senior Center.
2. From 2022 to 2025, the government issued special quarters each year on May 4th, honoring remarkable women. The **Long Valley Women's Club** actively participated by collecting these quarters. Each month, a club member researched one of the featured women, wrote about her accomplishments in the club newsletter, and included an image of the corresponding quarter. Their objectives were to create a display in the library showcasing a graph of the collected quarters for each honoree, and to use the funds to purchase children's books highlighting the achievements of as many women as possible. Members contributed quarters at meetings and encouraged friends and family to participate. Additionally, one member regularly checked with the township library to help locate these special quarters. To date, the club collected 100 quarters.
3. The **Pines Lake Woman's Club**, a group of 17 members, takes great pleasure in listening to podcasts, especially those created by Heather Cox Richardson, a history professor at Boston College. They also highly value her daily email series, *Letters from an American*.
4. The History Committee of the **Marlton Woman's Club**, comprised of 35 members, actively engages in monthly presentations during their meetings. Each committee member takes turns highlighting a woman of their choice, sharing her inspiring story with the rest of the club.
5. The **Arlington Woman's Club EMD** held its March meeting at the Kearny Museum, featuring a Women's History Display. Three club members, including the museum's president, serve on its board. Attendees enjoyed a private guided tour of the exhibit, and a photo from the event was shared on the club's Facebook page. Additionally, the 21-member club generously contributed \$200 to support the museum.
6. Fifteen members of the **GFWC Woman's Club of Denville-Rockaway Area** came together to celebrate International Women's Day with a movie outing to watch *Cabrini*. The film tells the inspiring story of an Italian immigrant woman who arrived

in America in the early 1900s and dedicated herself to organizing support for New York City's most vulnerable populations. The movie served as a powerful reminder that, even a century later, nonprofit organizations continue to play a vital role in helping those in need.

7. The **Pompton Lakes Women's Club**, a 93-member organization, is the steward of more than 1,000 historical artifacts, documents, and photographs that chronicle the town's rich history. The club uses these items to curate and create displays in the municipal building, sharing the town's heritage with the community. Members are responsible for carefully selecting and organizing items for each exhibit. Recently, in response to the heroic efforts of the Volunteer Fire Department and First Aid Squad during a local wildfire, the club dedicated a special display to honor their commitment to the community's safety. Club members reviewed their inventory database to identify meaningful artifacts for the tribute. They selected photographs, including rare images from the early 1900s, newspaper articles, anniversary mugs, and documents from their storage unit. These carefully chosen items are now proudly displayed in the town hall, serving as a heartfelt acknowledgment of these local heroes' dedication and bravery.
8. In celebration of Women's History Month in March, the **Woman's Club of Matawan**, a group of 24 members, hosted an engaging Women's History Quiz. Members were divided into Team A and Team B for a friendly competition. One member took the lead in organizing the event, preparing the quiz questions, creating a score-tracking board, and arranging small prizes for both winners and participants. The quiz followed an interactive format: questions were initially posed to Team A, and if unanswered, they were passed to Team B. Correct answers allowed teams to attempt bonus questions, adding an extra layer of excitement. Scores were tracked throughout the event, and the winning team was announced at the conclusion, bringing the celebration to a spirited and enjoyable close.
9. At the September general meeting of the **Sparta Women's Club**, each member received a beaded necklace upon entering. The color of each necklace symbolized the number of years a member had been part of the club, but the significance of the colors was kept a secret until the meeting commenced. Once the meeting was underway, they invited members wearing each color to stand and be recognized. The colors were grouped by decade, starting with 1970, as their longest-standing member joined in 1973. By the time they reached 2020, they were thrilled to note that 10 new members had joined since then, out of a total membership of 85.
10. The **Long Valley Women's Club** launched a heartfelt initiative to honor local women who have served or are currently serving in the military. They reached out to family, friends, and the community through social media to gather names and branches of service. Once compiled, this information was proudly featured in the club's newsletter and shared on their Facebook page, recognizing and celebrating the bravery and dedication of these remarkable women.