

WOMEN'S HISTORY SUPPLEMENT 2024-2025
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NJSFWC Women's History Supplement:

NJSFWC Women's History Supplement offers resources and ideas for preserving and promoting women's history. It includes suggested projects, donation opportunities, club outings, landmark preservation efforts, and information about the GFWC Women's History and Research Center (WHRC).

Membership and Donations:

- On November 16, 1894, NJSFWC became the eighth Federation to form under the General Federation of Women's Clubs. The NJSFWC 1894 Society helps fund the annual rent paid to Rutgers University. To join, donations from clubs or members of \$18.94, \$189.40, \$1894.00, or any amount greater than \$18.94 are greatly appreciated. Contributions are tax-deductible and should be recorded for Report Writing in January. Checks should be made payable to NJSFWC with "1894" noted in the memo. Mail them to:
NJSFWC, 55 Labor Center Way, New Brunswick, NJ 08901
- Alternatively, donations can be given directly to the chairman.

Club Historians:

- **Documenting Club History:** Club Historians are encouraged to record your club's activities and milestones through articles, interviews, scrapbooks, and photographs. For online activities, save materials to a thumb drive for future reference. Including a few sentences in your club's newsletter can provide valuable insights and should be included in your club's Report Writing in January.
- **Preserving Club History:** Identify a local repository (library, historical society, or museum) to archive your club's records. Consider creating a link to these records on your club's website.
- **Club Outings:** Organize club outings to New Jersey historical sites or hold meetings at NJSFWC Headquarters. Partnering with a historical society for a project is another great way to engage with local history. Be sure to document these activities in your January Report Writing.

Oral Histories:

- Interview current and former club members to capture oral histories of their club and community involvement. Notable interviews could include:
 - Long-standing members
 - Members who were active in specific projects (e.g., environmental efforts, domestic violence shelters, local government positions)
 - Honorees such as past Club Presidents, those who received the Honor Roll Award or the Order of the Lily Award.
 - These interviews should be shared in your club's Report Writing.

Research Local History:

- **Public Buildings:** Research the history of local public buildings such as libraries and schools, exploring aspects like architecture, funding, or renovations. Organize a club tour or invite a speaker to present at a meeting.

Federation History:

- Purchase a copy of *From the Beginning: A Page of History, Volume II*, the latest edition of NJSFWC Club Histories. A reference copy for your club and a donation to your local library will help preserve history. The cost is \$10 (add \$5 for shipping), available through NJSFWC Headquarters or at NJSFWC State and District Events.

NJSFWC Pins:

- Honor the history and contributions of your club members by presenting them with a NJSFWC pin. You can find order forms, prices, and images on the NJSFWC website: [NJSFWC Pins](#).
- If any member has an NJSFWC or GFWC pin that is not already part of the Pin Collection at Headquarters, we would be grateful for your donation. Please contact Historian Randi Quilici at quilici@njsfwc.org.

GFWC Women's History and Research Center (WHRC):

- **Women's History and Research Center (WHRC):**
Founded in 1984, the GFWC Women's History and Research Center (WHRC) houses an archival collection that includes the records of GFWC dating back to 1890. The archives feature materials such as GFWC International Presidents' papers, photographs, and program records. To access the archives, visit: [GFWC Research Center](#). Contributions to preserve these archives are tax-deductible. To donate, make checks payable to GFWC with "WHRC" in the memo line and mail to:
GFWC, 1734 N Street NW, Washington, DC 20036-2990
- **GFWC 1734 Society:**
In 1901, the 56th U.S. Congress granted the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) a Federal Charter, requiring it to maintain its headquarters in Washington, D.C. In 1922, GFWC clubwomen purchased 1734 N Street NW, located in the prestigious Dupont Circle neighborhood of Washington, D.C. To help preserve the GFWC Headquarters, a National Historic Landmark, consider joining the GFWC 1734 Society. Your donation of \$17.34, \$173.40, \$1734.00, or any amount greater than \$17.34 will support the building's maintenance and GFWC's continued efforts for women's issues and outreach. Donations are tax-deductible and should be made payable to GFWC, with "1734" noted in the memo. Please send contributions to: GFWC, 1734 Society, 1734 N Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20036-2990
- **WHRC Club Manual:**
For additional project ideas and resources, review the 2024-2026 GFWC Club Manual, specifically the section on the Women's History and Resource Center. Visit the GFWC website at [GFWC Club Manual](#) or contact the historian for more information.
- **National Coast Guard Museum:**
The National Coast Guard Museum is being built in New London, CT, to highlight 230 years of Coast Guard history. The museum will be free to the public, with a grand opening expected in 2026. GFWC members can support this project by donating online at Coast Guard Museum Donations. Additionally, personalized pavers are available for purchase at [Coast Guard Museum Pavers](#).

Women Have a Story to Tell:

- **Nominate Prominent Clubwomen to the National Women's Hall of Fame:**
The National Women's Hall of Fame, founded in 1969, honors extraordinary women for their contributions to society. For a donation of \$250, you can nominate a remarkable woman to be featured in the Hall of Fame's online "Book of Lives and Legacies." Each honoree receives a dedicated page that includes a one to three-page letter of accomplishments, accompanied by photographs. This permanent electronic record is available for all to view, and a commemorative plaque will be sent to the recipient, along with one year's membership in the Hall of Fame. To nominate a woman, visit [National Women's Hall of Fame](#) for applications and additional information. You can also arrange a group visit to the Hall of Fame by contacting admin@womenofthehall.org.
- **Research and Honor Local Women of Impact:**
Explore the lives and achievements of local women in your community or state. For example, learn about *Mabel Smith Douglass*, a key figure in the founding of the New Jersey College for Women (later Douglass College), and the role of the NJSFWC in its creation. Hold a public ceremony to honor these women and their contributions to history.
- **Celebrate Club Accomplishments in Your Newsletter:**
Keep your club informed about current and historical accomplishments by sharing updates in your monthly newsletter. Highlight the achievements of past NJSFWC and GFWC Presidents, as well as your club's ongoing endeavors. This helps preserve the history of the Federation and keeps members engaged in its legacy.
- **Purchase "A Century of Challenge" Book:**
To further learn about the rich history of the NJSFWC, purchase a copy of *A Century of Challenge: New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs First 100 Years* through the NJSFWC Federation Headquarters. This book provides valuable insights into the Federation's first century and its lasting impact.

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

- **Celebrate Women's History Month (March):**
Honor National Women's History Month by planning activities and projects within your club. For inspiration and resources, contact the National Women's History Alliance at www.nwhp.org.
- **Share Women's History on Social Media:**
A simple and effective way to celebrate is by sharing articles, infographics, inspiring quotes, videos, and other women-centric content on your club's social media platforms. This helps raise awareness and celebrates women's contributions year-round.

Preservation and Awareness of Women's History Landmarks:

- **Visit NJSFWC Headquarters (New Brunswick, NJ):**
Our Federation home, built in 1965, serves as a historical landmark. Clubs are encouraged to hold a meeting at Headquarters once a year. To schedule, contact the NJSFWC office at 732-249-5474.
- **Jane Cunningham Crowley's Gravesite (Lakewood, NJ):**
Pay respects at the gravesite of Jane Cunningham Crowley, located at Evergreen Cemetery on Route 9 in Lakewood, NJ.
- **Watch Tower in Federation Park (Alpine, NJ):**
Visit the Watch Tower on the Palisades in Alpine, NJ, built to honor the Federation's role in preserving the Palisades. For more information, visit <https://savingplaces.org/places/the-palisades>
- **Turning Point Suffragist Memorial (Fairfax Station, VA):**
Visit the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial at 5400 Ox Road, Fairfax Station, VA 22036. For more information, email <https://suffragistmemorial.org/#>