

JUNIORS' SPECIAL PROGRAM



GFWC
est. 1890
**GENERAL FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S CLUBS**



As GFWC women across the nation are preparing to return to meetings and jump back into action let's not forget the children!



Here are some standout project ideas that club women can implement to advocate for children in their communities:

Fall Fun with Purpose

- **Pumpkin Patch Pop-Ups:** Organize mini pumpkin giveaways at local farmers markets or host your own and include educational games and child safety tips.
- **Costume Closet Drive:** Collect gently used Halloween costumes and distribute to shelters or foster care children so every child can participate in fall festivities.
- **Harvest of Hope Festival:** Host a fall-themed event with hayrides, crafts, and booths offering child advocacy information. Ask your local pumpkin farm if you can host a booth during their festivities.
- **Hold an Art Contest:** Have children voice their wants and needs through art. Display the artwork in public spaces to raise awareness and celebrate youth voices. Partner with local businesses to display on their store fronts.

Warm Hearts, Warm Hands, Happy Communities

- **Coat & Sock Drive:** Collect warm clothing for children as temperatures drop, ensuring no child goes cold this season.
- **Fall Family Resource Fair:** Partner with local agencies to provide information on food assistance, healthcare, and educational support.
- **Safe Spaces:** Work with local officials to improve playgrounds, parks, and community centers, ensuring they are safe, inclusive, and welcoming for all children.

Literacy and Libraries

- **Create Mini Libraries:** filled with age-appropriate books. These "take one, leave one" stations promote reading and literacy while encouraging community engagement.
- **Create mentorship programs:** that connect club women with children and teens for guidance, tutoring, and emotional support. These relationships can be life-changing for both mentors and mentees.
- **Storytime with Seniors:** Bridge generations by organizing story time events where seniors read to children, either at libraries or local book stores. Why not host a story time at a local fall festival. This fosters intergenerational bonding and promotes literacy in a fun, engaging way.

Children's Advocacy Workshops

- **Host Workshops:** that educate parents and caregivers on children's rights, mental health awareness, and navigating local support systems. These sessions empower adults to better advocate for the children in their care.
- **Healthy Kids Campaign:** Partner with local health professionals to offer free wellness checks, nutrition education, and fitness activities. This initiative promotes physical and emotional well-being among children.

Advocacy Through Legislation

- **Encourage Club Members:** to write letters, attend town halls, and meet with lawmakers along with joining our legislative action center to support policies that protect and uplift children.

Remember to always proudly display the GFWC logo and your Club name

These projects not only celebrate the season but also serve as powerful tools for advocacy. By combining creativity with compassion, we can make a meaningful difference in the lives of children, one project at a time.

Let's make this September and October all about action, advocacy and awareness!

ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN

Advocates for Children Week is observed during the last full week of October (Oct. 19th through the 25th).



Back to school

It's a great time for clubs to start advocating for children by getting involved and making sure all children have the tools needed for a successful year.

- **Provide Classroom Care Kits:** include tissues, hand sanitizer, pencils, and encouraging notes for teachers to distribute to students.
- **Healthy Hardy Breakfasts:** Host a morning meal for students and families to celebrate the new school year and share resources.
- **Homework Help Hubs:** Set up after-school tutoring stations at libraries or community centers staffed by club volunteers.
- **Organize a Drive:** fill backpacks with school supplies, hygiene items, and snacks for children in need. Not only is it important that children have the tools at the beginning of school but also to continue throughout the year. Work with the schools, the school districts and counselors to find the needs and resources necessary.

The GFWC Fort Benton Woman's Club of Montana volunteers and teaches an afterschool cooking class. This club not only teaches the art of cooking but it incorporates basic education like, math, science and reading.



Between The Pages Book Club

An Exciting New Fun Initiative

***Statewide Book Club Registry
for NJFWC Members & Clubs
Education and Libraries Department***

What is this??? Read on...

- Read & Recommend Books.
- Register your own Club's existing or new book club or individual members.
- Include Club's name or individuals' names, and District.
- Pick your own book from any genre.
- Monthly: Submit the Title, Author, and a 50-word review of the books read.
- Read from September 15, 2025 to March 15, 2026.
- Check out the Almanac and Website for more info.



Earn Certificates

- Spring District Council
- Category 1: Read 1-10 books
- Category 2: Read 11-20 books
- Category 3: Read over 21 books
- You may get published in Almanac

Registration and Monthly submission

murdock@njsfwc.org

Joan Murdock, Chairmen of Education & Libraries

This is not part of GFWC ESO program.

New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs of GFWC
Barbara McCloskey, President
"Together in Service
United in Friendship"
District Bulletin

NJSFWC Civic Engagement and Outreach
Dawn Pogosaew, Chairman email: Pogosaew@njsfwc.org

National Wreaths Across America will be held on December 13, 2025. Remember our fallen military heroes by sponsoring a wreath for \$17.00 or volunteering at a local cemetery this year. Please visit: wreathsacrossamerica.org. Make sure to use the codes to record any donation or volunteer sign up on the website.

In order to donate through NJSFWC on the website, go to the search link at the top right of the page. Click on, "Search Groups". Start typing New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs in the search bar and it will bring our links to donate. The codes, NJ0177P and NJ0176 –NJSFWC - 3 for 2 Group (purchase 2 wreaths and 3 will be placed). Click on either the, VIEW link or the SPONSOR link. The SPONSOR link will allow you to sponsor wreaths or volunteer. In section number 1, select the number of wreaths you will be sponsoring. Section number 2 will be auto filled with our information but make sure to review it. Section 3 allows you to select a location that you would like to place your wreath(s). Confirm & Add to Cart to complete your order. You may also click on the link to "VIEW" which will bring you to a results page. On this page you will also be able to view the number of wreaths our members have donated, as well see the locations of where our club members are volunteering.

Operation Holiday Stocking Dropoff Dates:

Tuesday, October 28, Saturday November 1st, Tuesday November 4th, and Tuesday November 11th from 9am to 12noon.

Please try to pack them in shipping boxes. Any stockings that are dropped off in shopping bags will be repacked into shipping boxes and the bags will be returned to you.

Operation Holiday Stocking



2025



HELP SUPPORT OUR TROOPS

NJSFWC WILL BE COLLECTING STOCKINGS FOR OPERATION JERSEY CARES

Suggested items for stockings are listed on the reverse side. Fill out the list by numerating the stockings contents and bring it with the stockings. 1 list per club.

No alcohol, chocolate or batteries. No liquids, large items, or anything with metal or glass. **Stockings should be no larger than 12"** packed in large egg cartons or medium sized moving box---**do not use shopping bags.**

Drop off Dates:

**Tuesday October 28th, Saturday November 1st, Tuesday November 4th and
Tuesday November 11th from 9am to 12noon**

*** *START SHOPPING* ***

****No Cans/Magazines/Books/Hotel toiletries/Chocolates, Glass, or Batteries****

*****NO ALCOHOL OR PRODUCTS CONTAINING ALCOHOL*****

****No shaving creams/gels/sprays/aerosols as they may be restricted****

DO NOT sew stockings closed! Instead use a safety pin to secure the top.

Please include a monetary donation to help offset the shipping costs.

Food Items Requested:

- ☐ Liquid Water Enhancer (Mio)
- ☐ Powdered Drink Mix (Crystal Light)
- ☐ Coffee/Tea/Hot Chocolate
- ☐ Oatmeal Packets
- ☐ Soup Packets
- ☐ Sponges/Loofahs
- ☐ Bagged Tuna/Chicken (tear-open pouches)
- ☐ Breakfast/Granola/Protein Bars
- ☐ Peanut Butter/Cheese Sandwich Crackers
- ☐ Beef Jerky/Slim Jim's
- ☐ Nuts/Seeds/Trail Mix
- ☐ Dried Fruit/Raisins
- ☐ Salty Snacks (Chips/Pretzels/Popcorn)
- ☐ Snack Cakes/Cookies
- ☐ Chewing Gum
- ☐ Hard Candy
- ☐ Chewy Candy

Other Items:

- ☐ Puzzle/Sudoku Books
- ☐ Writing Pads
- ☐ Pens/Pencils
- ☐ Eyeglass Lens Wipes/Repair Kits
- ☐ Sewing Kits
- ☐ Socks
- ☐ Gloves
- ☐ Hacky Sacks/Cards

Medical & Other Items:

- ☐ gauze bandages/field bandages
- ☐ various sizes of adhesive bandages/bandaids/butterfly bandages
- ☐ hemostatic bandages and agents that help stop bleeding (Quikclot/Celox)
- ☐ individual iodine/alcohol/antiseptic wipes
- ☐ individual doses of acetaminophen, ibuprofen, aspirin, and other medicinal medications
- ☐ medical adhesive tape
- ☐ antibacterial ointments/disinfectants/burn creams
- ☐ medihoney strips

Specialty Items for Women:

- ☐ Moisturizing Bath Soap
- ☐ Body Wash
- ☐ Body Lotion
- ☐ Feminine Hygiene Product
- ☐ Protein Powder
- ☐ Emery Boards
- ☐ Single packaged Facial Masks
- ☐ Shower Caps
- ☐ Hair Ties (Brown/Black)
- ☐ Cotton Swabs

Hygiene Items:

- ☐ Foot Powder (Medicated)
- ☐ Deodorant (sticks only)
- ☐ Sunscreen (lotion only)
- ☐ Baby/Cleansing Wipes
- ☐ Hand Sanitizer
- ☐ Tissues (Individual Packs)
- ☐ Lip Balm/Chapstick
- ☐ Visine/Saline Eye Drops
- ☐ Aspirin/Advil/Tylenol
- ☐ Adhesive Bandages/Gauze
- ☐ Neosporin/Bacitracin
- ☐ Toothbrush
- ☐ Toothpaste
- ☐ Dental Floss

Name of Club _____ **District** _____

Number of Stockings _____ **Cash/Check Donated \$** _____

Please fill out the total quantity in all the stockings combined and submit one list per club to the office along with any cash or check donation for shipping.

**New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs of GFWC
Barbara McCloskey, President
Together is Service
United in Friendship**

**GFWC Signature Project
Domestic & Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention**

Claire Hill, Chairman

hill@njsfwc.org

September 2025 BULLETIN

September 27 is the GFWC Day of Service and is dedicated to food insecurity. But, if your club chooses to do a Day of Service in January, on Martin Luther King Day, you can dedicate the day to Domestic Violence Shelters. Some suggestions include:

- Collect personal care items such as shampoo, body wash, deodorant.
- Collecting towels and wash cloths.
- To relieve moms of the expense of birthday party supplies, collect the following: cake mix, icing, party napkins, plates, candles, party hats, etc. Place the items in an aluminum cake pan.

Always check with the facility before collecting and find the time it can all be delivered.

New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs of GFWC
Barbara McCloskey, President
Together is Service
United in Friendship

District Bulletin – September 2025
Education and Libraries

Joan Murdock, Chairman
Cell: 973 202- 5793
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murdock@njsfwc.org

Do you like to read? Do you want to share your thoughts on that book you just read?
Do you want something easy to join? Well do I have something for you!!!

For those of you who haven't seen the September ALMANAC yet I wanted to share the Education and Libraries Department new ***Between the Pages*** Book Club information with you!!

What is this club you ask? How do I join? IS there a fee?

In answer to those questions - here is the interesting information for you:

1. You do not have to be a member of your club's book club!!! This can be done as a group or as an individual. You just need to register and read.
2. To join as a club book club, just register your club book club name and have one person be responsible for submitting the review sheet. (Please submit their name when registering)
3. There is no fee to join! Only email me your name, club's name, district and tell me you want to join. To register send to: murdock@njsfwc.org
4. You can read books from any genre!!! Yes any genre, *no lists, no categories*. Just read!
5. The only thing you need to provide to me monthly is the Report Sheet. It is in a fillable form found on the website and can be sent to me via email or snail mail. On the njsfwc.org website, look under Materials, and then under the Education and Libraries, Between the Pages.
6. Awards Certificates will be distributed at your Spring District Council in the following categories:
Category 1: read 1 -10 books.
Category 2: read 11 – 20 books
Category 3: read 21 + books
7. For this administration, the time frame is **September 15, 2025 to March 15th, 2026**.
8. Your review may be published in one of the Education and Libraries ALMANAC articles.
9. This is not part of the GFWC ESO program. It is for the NJSFWC club members only.

If you have any questions, please email me! murdock@njsfwc.org Enjoy our new....
Between The Pages Book Club!!!


New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs of GFWC
Barbara McCloskey, President
Together is Service
United in Friendship

District Bulletin – September 2025

Historian
Randi Quilici, Chairman
quilici@njsfwc.org

Help Preserve New Jersey's Legacy with the GFWC WHRC

The GFWC Woman's History and Resource Center (WHRC) remains a vital hub for preserving the rich history of clubwomen and clubhouses across generations. Let's ensure New Jersey's contributions are fully represented!

If your club owns a clubhouse, please complete this short form to join the "clubhouse cohort" and share your club's name and contact information with GFWC. Multiple members can be listed.  [Clubhouse Cohort Form](#)

Your club is an important part of GFWC's legacy. We invite your club Historian, or any member to share your history. Please email Joanna Church, GFWC WHRC Librarian, at **whrc@gfwc.org** with any of the following:

- A written history of your club
- Photos of your clubhouse (past or present)
- The location of your club's records
- Information about clubwomen who are veterans

We also remember **Juanita Martin Bryant**, GFWC International President (1982–1984), who passed away on June 15, 2025. Her life was a masterclass in purpose, perseverance, and public service.

A defining legacy of her presidency was the founding of the GFWC Women's History and Resource Center (WHRC), dedicated on May 1, 1984, with a ribbon-cutting ceremony by then Vice President George H.W. Bush. Reflecting on its creation, Juanita said:

"It really bothered me that everyone in the world didn't know about our organization. I wanted to do something that would be lasting, that would be a legacy."

Thank you for making New Jersey strong and for helping to preserve our shared history!

New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs of GFWC
Barbara McCloskey, President
Together is Service
United in Friendship

Patricia Dahl – Second Vice President

Membership Bulletin for September 2025 Council

The Membership Grant deadline is October 1st to Headquarters. Two clubs per Membership Category are eligible to receive the Grant. The Membership Categories are: 4-30, 31-50, and 51+. The Grant will be awarded to the receiving clubs at Fall Conference on October 20th at the Lobster Shanty. Further directions and details are on the NJSFWC website under Materials, Membership! Please think about having your club apply for a grant.

Membership Week is November 10th – 16th. Consider planning an activity or event. For example, activities could be for recruiting new members or a Membership Orientation for your existing new members.. It could be very simple or as gigantic as your club would like. After the event, be sure to document it and report it on the Membership Report at the end of the year with a narrative. This officer would also love to hear about it by sending an email to dahl@njsfwc.org

NJSFWC REPORT WRITING WORKSHOPS

| Date | Workshop Topics | Time |
|--------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| September 16 - HYBRID | | 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. |
| | Education – Joan Murdock | |
| | Environment – Dorothy Bernice | |
| | Domestic Violence – Claire Hill | |
| | Leadership – Susan Chambers | |
| | Programs – Tina Ree | |
| | Health and Wellness – Katie Chambers | |
| | | |
| September 23 - HYBRID | | 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. |
| | Performing Arts – Ann Brown | |
| | Civic Engagement – Dawn Pogosaew | |
| | Special State Project – April Shoemaker | |
| | Arts and Culture – Kathleen Reddick | |
| | | |
| September 23 – ZOOM ONLY | | 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. |
| | Advocates for Children – Marie DiMatties | |
| | Women's History – Randi Quilici | |
| | Membership – Patricia Dahl | |
| | Communications – Shelley Rothstein | |
| | Legislation/Public Policy – Jacqueline Wisner | |

The information for the ZOOM workshop will be sent to you. The ZOOM Workshops will allow participants to sign in 15 minutes before the workshop actually begins to make sure everyone is on it.

New Jersey State Federation of Women's Club
Barbara McCloskey, President
Together in Service – United in Friendship

September Nominations and Elections Bulletin

Linda Hrycenko, Chairman
hrycenko@njsfwc.org

ALERT...ALERT...ALERT

By November 1, 2025, each club president will have received a mailing to nominate capable, interested women from your club to assume positions on the NJSFWC Board of Directors with the purpose of participation in the work of the Federation for the 2026-2028 administration. This mailing will explain the procedure to follow for the nomination/endorsement of a candidate to serve on the NJSFWC Board of Directors. A white Nomination Blank will be included with a letter of instructions. It is necessary that all instructions be read carefully and followed precisely. After the Club has voted to nominate a member, the Nomination Blank must be signed by the Club President and the Recording Secretary. This is your club's opportunity to invest in the future of the NJSFWC by nominating a qualified candidate for the Board of Directors of the NJSFWC.

Club eligibility (to nominate a candidate) is determined by the following:

1. The Woman's Club must be a member of NJSFWC for at least one year.
2. Clubs with an active membership of fewer than 80 members may propose no more than two members to serve as Trustees during any given two-year period.
3. Clubs with an active membership of 80 or more may propose no more than three members to serve as Trustees during any given two-year period.

Candidate eligibility (to be nominated as a Trustee) is determined by the following:

1. Each candidate shall have been an active member of the NJSFWC Woman's Club nominating her for at least one year at the time of her nomination.
2. Each candidate shall be expected to remain an active member of her club for the term of office.
3. Each candidate should check the bylaws for the eligibility rules for their office choice. The bylaws can be found in the back of the NJSFWC Yearbook.

Please feel free to contact Lin Hrycenko at (732) 406-3983 or hrycenko@njsfwc.com if you have any questions. Remember, this is your club's opportunity to invest in the future of the NJSFWC by nominating a qualified candidate for the Board of Directors of the NJSFWC!