

## In the November 2025 issue >>

- State Dates
- SSP Backpack Flyer
- Join the Forum
- GFWC's Legislative Ladder
- Second Chance Scholarship
- Woman of Achievement Forms



Meet the NJSFWC Headquarters Staff: L/R: Joanne Mangels, Cindy Blumenkrantz, and Nancy Faison, Executive Assistant. We look forward to seeing you at the Headquarters open house!!



# ALMANAC

State Newsletter

New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs of GFWC



## November Greetings...*Happy Thanksgiving to you and your family!*

As we move into November, this Officer is sure that clubs are in 'full swing' and keeping extremely busy!

A huge thank you to Tina Ree and her committee for a successful State Fall Conference. 200 members representing 53 clubs attended, including 13 first time attendees.

Dr. Leslie Danehy enlightened us on how the Douglass Residential College and students are keeping up with the times and Lucy Del Gaudio spoke to us about how Operation Sisterhood, now located at the YWCA of Northern New Jersey is supporting women Veterans in New Jersey.

This Officer also hopes you have signed up for the Headquarters open houses, scheduled for November 13<sup>th</sup> and/or 15<sup>th</sup>.

She hopes that you enjoyed our State Fall Conference at the Lobster Shanty, and have already signed up for the Headquarters Open Houses, scheduled for November 13<sup>th</sup> and/or 15<sup>th</sup>. To register: [openhouse@njsfwc.org](mailto:openhouse@njsfwc.org).

**As you know, we are celebrating a big milestone: 60 years in our Headquarters building.**

- We are proud to be one of the few Federations that has a Headquarters building where members and clubs can meet, as well as having an office staff that can organize, arrange and support us on a regular basis.

On that note,

Although 'Giving Tuesday' is not celebrated this year until Tuesday, December 2nd, I wanted to give you time to think about joining in the 'Celebration'. Around the world people will be celebrating the generosity of all organizations, just like the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs.

- This year we will be focusing on support of our Headquarters building and the 1894 Society, which was established to help pay for the lease for the property our building is located on.
- Although we own the building, which was mostly funded by the members in 1964 by donating one book of S&H Green stamps or \$2.00, Rutgers charges us a yearly fee to lease the land.
- Maintenance and other day-to-day expenses are also increasing each year, and we hope that you, our members,

feel that supporting our Headquarters building is worth donating towards.

...a thing worth having is a thing worth paying for; no organization of any kind can be maintained without financial support." This was written in 1932 by GFWC Foundation Fund Chairman Dr. Clara Burdette, in a campaign to raise money to meet organizational expenses. The world has changed a lot in 92 years. What has not changed is that an organization cannot be maintained without financial support.

- We will be happy to accept any monetary donation to the 1894 Society from members, clubs and even friends!

**Because she feels supporting our Federation and our Headquarters building is so important and valuable to our members future, all donations up to \$1,894 will be matched by this President.**

You may send a check or make a credit card donation by visiting our website [njsfwc.org](http://njsfwc.org) and 'click' on the Donate button on the top right corner. Please include a note that your donation is for 'Giving Tuesday' so we can keep track for the \$1,894 match.

- With any \$60.00 donation or more, you may also receive a limited-edition S&H Green Stamp pin, created for this Anniversary.

Again, this President is very thankful to every NJSFWC clubwoman and the work each of you do in your communities all year long.

In Federation friendship,

*Barbara*

Together in Service, United in Friendship

### Table of Contents

Executive Committee Articles.....	Page 2
District Vice Presidents .....	Page 4
Community Service Program.....	Page 9
Standing Committee.....	Page 13

**NJSFWC PRESIDENT-ELECT****chambers@njsfwc.org****Susan Chambers**

With report writing right around the corner, let's take a look at a few of the award-winning Leadership Projects from 2024.

The Most Creative Leadership Project in 2024 was from the **Woman's Club of Brielle, Inc.** in the Shore District. They held a Women's Leadership Conference that was interactive and thought-provoking. It explored strategies for personal growth, professional development, networking and community engagement. The event was open to the public at the Brielle Public Library, with a registration fee of \$25. There were two featured speakers: one, a club member, is the President and CEO of her own company (Women's Unlimited, Inc.) and another who is an Integrated Wellness Coach. \$1000 was raised at the event for a club scholarship to which the club added \$1500 for a total scholarship of \$2,500 given to a Lehigh University student. The event was so successful that they held it again in March of this year.

One of the Top Ten Leadership Projects in 2024 was by the **Bridgewater Woman's Club** of the College District. They started "The Rule of Six" plan to encourage communication among club leaders. 1) Developed a Strategic Plan based on revised bylaws that were given to each member for reference; 2) Their Board developed an annual plan that outlined all programs, activities and goals; 3) A Master Schedule and Budget were distributed to members prior to voting on the same; 4) Monthly Executive Committee meetings share Community Service Program/Committee details; 5) Discussion ensues of the same with entire membership to gain involvement/participation; 6) They report results at general meetings and give recognition of participation and success.

Stay tuned next month for more glimpses into Top Leadership Projects. Wishing all of our members and their loved ones a wonderful season of Giving Thanks.

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**NJSFWC FIRST VICE PRESIDENT****sienkielewski@njsfwc.org****Chris Sienkielewski**

One portion of the NJSFWC First Vice President's position is to be the Chairman of Report Writing. One may think this is the most difficult aspect, but as in any complex task, there is also joy. Reading a synopsis of clubs' reports tells the story of the impact clubs make on their communities, the state and the world. Our clubs look at all issues: clean food and water, the environment, child and adult safety and health issues, libraries, education, the arts, women's history and so much more. Each club's end of the year report is the way we share the work of the our NJSFWC clubs and helps our NJSFWC state chairmen understand the many resources needed by our members.

And now is the perfect time to get started. A large task that may seem insurmountable can be broken up into small tasks that when put together seem 'easy peasy'!

1. In your Report Writing Packets (sent to every Club President or on the NJSFWC website – under Materials) is a worksheet for all the reports you MAY report on. The forms on the website are a fillable PDF. Each form you use must be filled out with the club's name, district, number of members (the number that is listed in the 2025-2026 NJSFWC Yearbook, on the club directory list), Chairman's name (or the person writing that report), the Chairman's phone number, and her email address. Please print and do not use abbreviations. If you utilize the PDF on the website, you must download the form to your computer first.
2. Begin to gather information for all the work your club has done in each reporting area. Utilize your club minutes, newsletters, project report forms or whatever you have done to keep track of those projects. This is the perfect time to begin to list the number of projects, hours, actual dollars donated directly from your treasury and the monetary value of any in-kind donations your members have contributed. There are tools within the packet that will help you know where the project can be reported and how to figure the statistical information, such as volunteer hours.
3. Once the statistical information is complete, you can then begin to tell your story – your narrative of projects you would like to highlight. To prepare for this part of the report, just write what comes to mind. How did you decide on that project? What resources did you utilize to know exactly the direction of your project? Did you work with another community group or club? What did you collect and how many club members were involved in the project? In other words, how would you tell another group about your project? What challenges did you face? What went well? What was your success?

**Please remember that these projects include ALL projects your club has done between January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.** It is really important to make sure that you are reporting **ALL** the projects you have done throughout

**FIRST VICE PRESIDENT (Continued)**

the year. These forms are to be sent to the State Chairmen by February 1, 2026. Sending them in early does not allow you to report on projects you have done in November and December 2025.

The December ALMANAC article will talk more in depth about how you can complete your narrative and transfer it to your report.

Always remember that this Officer and every Chairman is only a phone call or email away. Feel free to ask questions. No question is too small?

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**NJSFWC SECOND VICE PRESIDENT****dahl@njsfwc.org****Patricia Dahl**

Strategic Planning determines where the club is going, how it is going to get there, and how it will know when it has arrived. Determine some specifics:

- What do we, as a club, do best?
- What needs can we satisfy for potential members that other groups can't?
- What do we want our club to be known for?
- What value do we want to have in our community?
- What personal needs do we want our club to satisfy?

(What or Who) It is important to remember that a goal should not be too general in nature, it must be to the point it should define a specific outcome.

(How) Any goal must be measurable. If individuals experience success in reaching a goal, it will lead to motivation and determination to do more or do better.

(When) Each goal or objective should have a time limit. Without it, there are no deadlines. Working with deadlines makes it easier to measure and determine success. Time limits must be measurable, attainable and realistic.

It is important to know your capabilities. Any goal must be within reach. Your club must be able to attain what you set out to achieve. If it is not achievable, it may lead to negative experiences and a lack of motivation to try again.

The measurable parts of a goal should never be too easy or too difficult. Many times, you may need to break the goal down into smaller objectives. This can give the club additional chances to be successful and make adjustments which, in time, will help to reach the final goal.

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**NJSFWC TREASURER****carbley@njsfwc.org****Linda Carbley**

This Treasurer is excited to announce that she will be hosting a Treasurer's Workshop at the 2026 Convention this May! To make sure our session is not only informative but also engaging and practical, she would love to hear from you. Got burning questions? Tricky challenges? Brilliant ideas? Send them this Treasurer via email at [carbley@njsfwc.org](mailto:carbley@njsfwc.org). Your input will help shape a dynamic, helpful, and maybe even fun workshop. Let's make this session count—together!

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**NJSFWC FINANCIAL SECRETARY****cibelli@njsfwc.org****Debbie Cibelli****Disbursement of Charitable Funds**

Most of us know the clear-cut hard-core rule for disbursement of our charitable funds as a legal 501(c)3/non-profit organization must go to another 501(c)3/non-profit organization.

However, there are exceptions to the rule according to the Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission (LGCCC).

## NJSFWC FINANCIAL SECRETARY (Continued)

During one of the Report Writing seminars, one of the clubs asked if a donation was able to be made to their municipality of money specifically earmarked for the purchase of trees to be planted in a park. The first instinct was to say "no only to another qualified 501(c)3/nonprofit."

With nothing to lose, this Officer made a call to the LGCCC where she was transferred to the Director of the department. Speaking with him, she told him she understood the golden rule of disbursement of funds from one 501(c)3/non-profit organization to another 501(c)3/non-profit organization, then proceeded to explain a question she had gotten. Low and behold, he said oh yes there are a few exceptions and that would fall under the Public Spirit exception.

- He then stated there were 5 areas where a 501(c)3/non-profit could donate to outside of another 501(c)3/non-profit. It must be for an "authorized purpose" or qualified purpose. An authorized purpose he went on to explain was defined as an educational, charitable, patriotic, religious, or public-spirited purpose that benefits an indefinite number of people.

The regulation expands on these purposes, to include:

- Bringing people under the influence of education or religion, by bringing their minds or hearts under the influence of education or religion
- Relieving suffering and promoting health by relieving their bodies from disease, suffering, or constraint
- Helping people establish themselves by assisting them in life
- Erecting or maintaining public buildings or works, lessening the burden of government.
- Supporting veterans' or senior citizens' groups.

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## COLLEGE DISTRICT

[dobalo@njsfwc.org](mailto:dobalo@njsfwc.org)

**Laurel Dobalo**

November is a time of Thanksgiving and the women of the College District are thankful that they have boundless energy to help our communities. Together in Service, United in Friendship.

**Woman's Literary Club of Bound Brook** will have two interesting programs: "Women's Roles in Society in Early America" and "Travel Experiences in Ireland."

**Bridgewater Woman's Club** will have a program: "How Thanksgiving has Evolved in the USA."

**Woman's Club of Clinton** will have a speaker from the Hunterdon County Economic Development and Tourism Board. They will also be celebrating the birthday of their 96-year-old active member!

**Flemington Woman's Club** will have artist, Cheryl Snyder, discuss her award-winning artwork and show a display of stained glass.

**Franklin Woman's Club** will have a "Broadway, Blooms and Baskets" fundraiser featuring John Newman, the Singing Florist. The event will include a luncheon, Mini Tricky Tray and a Super 50/50 Raffle.

**Glen Gardner Women's Club** will be creating crafts for clients of Meals on Wheels. They will also be collecting food on Halloween night during Trick or Treating for the North Hunterdon Food Pantry.

**Woman's Club of Hillsborough** has invited the Neshanic Garden Club to teach their members flower arranging. They will also be collecting items for a local "Free Rummage Sale."

**Holland Township Woman's Club** will take part in a Craft/Vendor show to raise funds for their charities.

**Metuchen Edison Women's Club** will hold a Mahjong Tournament fundraiser to support the end of youth homelessness and trafficking. They will also enjoy a presentation from Dr. Norma Bose on "Death and Our Perspectives."

**North Brunswick Woman's Club** will participate in the Craft Show at their town senior center.

**Princeton Area Woman's Club** will be putting together Thanksgiving Baskets for the elderly in their community.

**GARDEN DISTRICT****[schneider@njsfwc.org](mailto:schneider@njsfwc.org)****Mary Schneider**

**GFWC Gloucester County Women's Club** donated 54 bath towels and 52 wash cloths to the local Domestic Abuse Shelter as part of the GFWC Day of Service District Project. Members filled 12 Holiday stockings for the troops and made 24 chemo bags filled with women's necessities and snacks.

**The Haddon Fortnightly** is holding a special fundraiser to support victims of domestic abuse – Philly Sound with Jimmy Brewster this month with basket raffles, bake sale and 50/50.

**The Haddon Fortnightly EMD** is holding a Dine & Donate fundraiser at a local brewery this month receiving 20% of the sales. They collected and donated ladies pj's and underclothes to the Anna Sample House Complex in Camden.

**Marlton's Woman's Club** held their annual Fall Bingo which was a huge success. The proceeds from the sale of the Boscov's Friends Helping Friends coupons will be donated to the Special State Project, NJ Children's Alliance. Members participated in Evesham's Harvest Fest, Trunk or Treat, and entered a local scarecrow contest.

**Woman's Club of Merchantville** started the Fall season with a bus trip to Niagara Falls. 50 members and guests participated. Members sewed and filled six (6) holiday stockings for the troops, six (6) sacs for the homeless, and filled twenty (20) handbags with toiletries, personal care items, and snacks for WOW organization to help women in transition.

**Woman's League of Mount Holly** filled 27 handbags with items – calendars, pens, combs, brushes, hand creams, etc. for Providence House. Members enjoyed a Lunch and Learn outing at the *Peachfield Plantation*, a restored country plantation house in Westhampton, NJ

**Woman's Club of Penns Grove-Carneys Point** held a successful mum plant sale and donated part of the proceeds to the local high school's FFA to help finance a trip for their Award-Winning Parliamentary Procedure Team.

**Woman's Club of Pitman** welcomed two (2) new members. Members participated in both the Pitman and Gloucester County Clean-Up Days. Members sold Boscov's Friends Helping Friends Day coupons.

**GFWC Woman's Club of Runnemede** held a Fall Fair this year. It was the most successful event their club has had. For Thanksgiving, the club will be donating pies to local families.

**Waterford Township Woman's Club** hosted a Fall Designer Bag Bingo and participated in their Township's Health and Wellness event donating First Aid items.

**West Deptford Junior Women's Club** is getting ready for their first annual Holiday Light Tour – a one-hour magical bus tour around their town enjoying festive light displays. The tour will end at the River Winds Community Center with a festive reception which will include refreshments, entertainment, and a visit from Santa Claus.

**Woman's Club of West Deptford** members enjoyed a costumed Halloween breakfast, a picnic, and pottery painting. The club collected and delivered 56 pounds of #5 plastics, plastic lids, prescription bottles and caps to a recycling center in Delaware where the items are turned into benches. 25 stockings were filled for Operation Holiday Stockings.

**Woman's Club of Woodstown** continues to pack "Blizzard Bags" for their county's "Meals on Wheels" program when the weather prohibits deliveries, and writing Christmas cards to Veterans.

**Emmanuel Cancer Foundation (ECF) Golf Outing Hole Sponsor** – With donations from The Haddon Fortnightly, Marlton Woman's Club, Woman's League of Mount Holly, Woman's Club of Mullica Hill, Waterford Township Woman's Club, Woman's Club of West Deptford, and the District's Vice President, we were able to raise funds for Emmanuel Cancer Foundation and have our names put on a plaque at a hole.

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**HIGHLANDS DISTRICT****[jeisi@njsfwc.org](mailto:jeisi@njsfwc.org)****Karen Jeisi**

**Woman's Club of Belvidere** held its 95th Anniversary celebration in September, with State President, Barbara McCloskey, the Highlands DVP, President of the Belvidere Borough Council, and past club presidents in attendance.

## HIGHLANDS DISTRICT (Continued)

**Blair Woman's Club of Blairstown** collected numerous items for DASI for the GFWC International Day of Service. Holding its annual Silent Auction at Brook Hollow on Nov 14 with proceeds going to educational service projects.

**Woman's Club of Boonton** collected needed items for Deirdre's House for GFWC International DS. Sponsored a table on Main St. Boonton for Boonton Day and had a Trick or Treat table in October at Grace Lord Park.

**Woman's Club of Denville-Rockaway** collected board games for JBWS for GFWC International Day of Service and held its 6<sup>th</sup> annual Walkathon for scholarships in October. Sponsoring 5 wreaths for Wreaths Across America.

**Hopatcong Woman's Club:** For DASI (Domestic Abuse & Sexual Assault Intervention), donated a banner for Teen Dating Awareness as a photo backdrop when educating students and held a linen shower. In November, concluding the on-going 50/50 Fall into Money raffle (estimate \$2500 to winner) to raise funds for high school scholarships.

**Long Valley Woman's Club** held a program on Human Trafficking co-sponsored with the Washington Township Library. Hosted and provided refreshments for the September Highlands District Council.

**Woman's Club of Parsippany-Troy Hills:** For GFWC International Day of Service, filled 5" by 7" cases with essential toiletries/cosmetics collected from the public and club members. Filled cases donated to JBWS.

**Roxbury Woman's Club:** Providing pies to Roots and Wings for Thanksgiving. Adopting a family from Social Services for Thanksgiving and December holidays; providing food and gifts.

**Thursday Morning Club:** Preparing for its major fundraiser, Bazar de Noel, to be held November 14 and 15. Providing diapers and birthday boxes for CASA.

**Vernon Township Woman's Club:** Added Market Street Mission as a new service project; had speaker from Birth Haven at their November meeting

**Washington Woman's Club:** In October, held its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration, an Afternoon Tea Party, with entertainment by The Singing Florist.

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## LIBERTY DISTRICT

**Woman's Club of Allwood's** Virtual Tricky Tray that started on Columbus Day and will have its winners announced on Veterans' Day. In October the club recognized four 60-year members, three of whom were recently placed on the Honor Roll.

**Woman's Club of Arlington** is supporting and attending the Manhattan Short Film Festival. They're also filling stockings for Operation Holiday Stockings.

**Woman's Club of Arlington EMD** filled birthday bags for Women Rising women's shelter in September to support GFWC's International Day of Service. They're also collecting hats/gloves/scarves in their Library to be donated locally.

**Woman's Club of Belleville** helped at the Township concert that featured The Cameos and another '60s band. They sold 50/50's there as a fundraiser. For GFWC International Day of Service, the club will take goodies to the Safe House. The club will complete Holiday Stockings for our troops.

**Woman's Club of Berkeley Heights** filled 40 backpacks with school supplies for NJCA and held a Bunco fundraiser in October for scholarships and various philanthropies. They also are supporting Operation Holiday Stocking.

**Woman's Club of Caldwell** participated in the Essex County Alzheimer's Awareness Walk in West Orange and stuffed Holiday Stockings in October. They served donated food for the Essex County Opioid Awareness Walk and will hold an appreciation luncheon for veterans this month.

**LIBERTY DISTRICT (Continued)**

**Woman's Club of Little Falls** placed a display of their club's 100-year history in the town library. They have a monthly "Girls Night Out" at a local restaurant that began as an opportunity for widowed members to go out for dinner. It has grown to include all members. For Thanksgiving, they'll be providing full dinners for 6 needy town families and will also gift each with an Afghan made by their Warm Up America Group.

**Woman's Club of Upper Montclair** celebrated the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of their founding in October. They also sponsored a Blood Drive and a Benefit Luncheon for the Human Needs Food Pantry and Montclair Emergency services for Hope. They've written thank you notes for Veterans on Veterans' Day with a sweet treat attached. Their Holly Berry Craft Show is November 1 and 2.

**Woman's Club of Verona** members are knitting or crocheting baby hats and blankets to be donated to Mountainside Hospital. They held their Annual Garage Sale in October and a Luminary Workshop to prepare for their major fundraiser.

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**PALISADES DISTRICT****drogo@njsfwc.org****Janet Drogo**

**The Palisades District Clubs** are busy stuffing stockings for Operation Holiday Stockings and holding Thanksgiving food drives.

**Book and Needle Club of Oradell** is having a fundraiser at Sandicci's in River Edge on November 10 and a Holiday Craft session on November 18.

**Woman's Club of Carlstadt** will have the first drawing of their calendar raffle and will host their annual Friendship night at their November meeting.

**Cresskill Woman's Club** program for their November meeting will be Mario Medici presenting a destination lecture.

**Woman's Club of Englewood** will be celebrating 130 years of service to the NJSFWC and the community with an Anniversary Brunch on November 9 and will host a Carriage House concert at the Tenaflly Presbyterian Church on November 16.

**Greater Pascack Valley Woman's Club** hosted their annual High Tea.

**Woman's Club of Lyndhurst** is selling tickets for their Super 50/50 raffle which will be drawn at their Holiday Market in December.

**Woman's Club of Maywood** is raffling a \$300 lottery basket.

**Woman's Club of Old Tappan** will be making holiday ornaments at their next general meeting.

**Woman's Club of Paramus** is celebrating 80 years of service to the NJSFWC and their community on November 4 and took part in Walk for Domestic Violence sponsored by the Center for Hope and Safety,

**Woman's Club of Ridgefield Park** is making Christmas tray favors at their November meeting.

**Woman's Club of Rutherford** is hosting a Vendor Sale at their clubhouse on November 21.

**Woman's Club of Westwood** is planning a Dueling Pianos Fundraiser.

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**RAMAPO DISTRICT****witty@njsfwc.org****June Witty**

**Allendale Woman's Club** will host a new idea for fundraising with a Night of Charcuterie Board Making. An instructor will provide the food items and boards. There will also be a small Tricky Tray. In addition, the Club will display a Giving Tree,

**RAMAPO DISTRICT (Continued)**

on which local children in need will be added for gifting during the holidays. The Club has an active Book Club, reading and discussing monthly novels. They continue to provide a night of Fun for Special Needs Housing residents with Arts-n-Crafts, games and parties.

**Montville Township Woman's Club** will continue to collect plastic caps and tabs, Soles-4-Soles and for Veterans in shelter housing.

**Pines Lakes Woman's Club, Inc** will proudly have their 21<sup>st</sup> Turkey Drive for the Food Bank. They will be decorating doors with swags they make from fresh greens as well as baking cookies for St Mary's Food Bank.

**Pompton Lakes Woman's Club** will host a Victorian Tea/Tricky Tray fundraiser. In addition, the Club will have A Slice of Autumn that will include dinner with arts-n-crafts.

**Suburban Woman's Club of Pompton Plains** will be making angel ornaments out of book pages to be placed on Christmas trees at Chilton Memorial Hospital. In addition, they will have a turkey leg drive for their food pantry.

**Woman's Club of Ramsey** members will be collecting new books, for newborns to three years, to give to Several Sources Shelter for single young moms-to-be.

**Ridgewood Woman's Club** will have a Friendsgiving with the Girl Scouts and will be collecting non-perishables for Oasis, in addition, to having a Giving Tree for Strengthen our Sisters.

**Saddle Brook Woman's Club** will donate \$300 and shop for requested food for the pantry in their community.

**Woman's Club of Upper Saddle River** is pleased to announce their 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Poetry and Essay contest with the theme "What is the best gift you ever gave someone?" Awards are given out in December.

**Woman's Club of West Milford Township.** will hold a "Fall into Winter" craft show in coordination with the Ringwood Manor Assoc. of Arts. They will also hold a Christmas Market at Wallisch Homestead on Nov 29.

**Past Presidents Club of the 11<sup>th</sup> District** will host an expert from the Bergen County Prosecutors office on Scams, what to look for and how to be safe.

**SHORE DISTRICT**
[osborne@njsfwc.org](mailto:osborne@njsfwc.org)
**Karen Osborne**

**The Woman's Club of Asbury Park** is rounding out the season with their Craft Fair in November at their clubhouse. Their evening group is planning a Friendsgiving in November and a cookie exchange in December. One of their members has started an open Mahjong night on Monday evenings.

The **Woman's Club of Brick Township** hosted a workshop on how to grow healthy indoor plants with the help of a local business, The Tiny Greenhouse. Members are optimistic they will enter some plants in Achievement Day. Their Health and Wellness Department has scheduled events for members such as guided meditation.

The **Woman's Club of Brielle** will be holding a Fall Luncheon and Gift Auction at the Lobster Shanty.

The **Freehold Township Woman's Club** is doing Boscov's Charity Days, Friends Helping Friends.

The **Howell Women's Club** is collecting items for Holiday Stockings to be filled during their October business meeting. They are beginning a monthly collection of shelf stable items for a local Senior Center, "Just in Thyme" pantry. They will adopt a family again for the holidays.

The **Woman's Club of Lacey** has membership activities with mahjong and cards on Mondays and attending plays at the Surfflight Theater. They are currently promoting their Calendar Club raffle to provide scholarships for Lacey High School students.



**SHORE DISTRICT (Continued)**

The **Little Silver Woman's Club** will be teaming up with the Veteran's Watchmaker Initiative in Delaware that provides watchmaking training support and employment referrals to disabled veterans. The club has donated 21 watches to this Initiative. They continue to collect sneakers to keep them out of landfills. Members are working with Holiday Express creating ornaments for children for the holidays.

The **Woman's Club of Matawan** is preparing for their Farm to Table Harvest Dinner with a basket raffle and music as a fundraiser.

The **Woman's Club of Middletown** will be having a Gift Tree Program for recipients of WIC benefits and stockings for the military. They will be cooking for Ronald McDonald House.

The **Past President's Club** played several games such as a mystery challenge to help members to get to know each other. They are collecting socks for the military.

The **Woman's Club of Point Pleasant** will be having a Take-Out Chili sale in time for the Giants vs. Eagles game. They will be holding a Holiday Bunco.

The **Woman's Club of Spring Lake** produced a full color, full sized yearbook designed on Canva. They are holding a Veteran's luncheon and a Scholarship Luncheon at the Bath and Tennis Club.

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**SOUTHERN DISTRICT****speechley@njswc.org****Carole Speechley**

The **Woman's Club of Absecon** contacted the rescue center for domestic animals in Egg Harbor City and based on their needs, members will be making fleece tie blankets at their November Meeting. This month they will be supporting the local Women's Center with donations requested by their coordinator.

The **Women's Community Club of Cape May** supported a Girl Scout who is working for her gold badge with donations of gift cards and kids' activity books for baskets for hospitalized children. They helped Veterans in a local nursing home celebrate Veterans' Day with coffee (donated by WAWA) and donuts.

Members of the **Colony Club of Ocean City** supported the SSP by donating twenty age-appropriate overnight bags filled with requested items by their members. They received a "Star of the Show" from the OC Theater Company. This year their "snowbirds" can attend their meetings on ZOOM.

The **Woman's Civic Club of Hammonton** has been partnering with Habitat for Humanity's Woman's Build Day. They were finally able to give their Community Relations Director, who spoke at their October meeting, a new homeowner basket. Twelve members were trained and will be working at the polls this month.

The **Millville Woman's Club's** collected 133 non-perishable food items for the Help & Hope Ministry Food Pantry. This month they will have their Thanksgiving Tea, a lovely catered affair for their members. Their Book group meets monthly, discussing a variety of books.

The **Woman's Club of Vineland** will have their second game day of the year this month. They're collecting gently used men and women's coats, jackets and sweaters for the Cumberland County Family Center, Watch out everyone, they have 2 Arts & Culture and 2 Environment workshops planned to prepare for Achievement Day.

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**THE ARTS AND CULTURE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM****reddick@njfwc.org****Kathleen Reddick**

November paints our sidewalks with orange, red, and golden leaves, providing the perfect backdrop to embrace the cozy spirit of the crisp season through creativity, connection, and cultural exploration

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

**Culture Close to Home in the Garden State:** Looking for inspiration beyond your Club's hometown? New Jersey's artistic and cultural calendar is as rich as its autumn landscapes. Plan a day trip to one of these central New Jersey sites.

Want to experience a **19th Century Thanksgiving**? Visit the **Historic Village at Allaire** for an Early American Thanksgiving Celebration on Nov 23 in Wall Township. Step back in time and experience what a traditional 1830s Thanksgiving might have looked like—with costumed interpreters, open hearth cooking, and early American crafts. <https://allairevillage.org>

Or stroll through **Princeton's Morven Museum** to become immersed in the annual **Festival of Trees** beginning November 19. Visit the elegant galleries, mantels, and porches decorated by local businesses and clubs. Enjoy lunch in a Princeton Cafe or restaurant on Nassau Street. Don't miss walking through Princeton University, with its historic architecture and the magnificent Chapel. <https://www.morven.org/>

**Giving Thanks, Giving Back Together:** Calling All Quilters (and Wannabes!). Think about holding a **Stitch & Sip** with a Thanksgiving theme of "Patchwork Gratitude." Bring fabric scraps that hold meaning — from a child's team T-shirt to grandma's apron to make start a memory square. Share your stories of gratitude with your Club sisters. Don't sew? Come anyway! We always need good conversation and coffee pourers.

**Friendsgiving Potluck!** Bring a dish and your warmest smile. Decorate with handmade centerpieces and share favorite family recipes. Think about including an ornament making class or exchanging ornaments with instructions. Have a food pantry donation or a handmade scarf or hat as entry fee to donate to a local shelter.

### Two of the Top Ten Annual Report Arts and Culture projects submitted to the GFWC.

**College District:** The Suburban Woman's Club launched a new project called "HE'ARTS CREATIVE," designed to create and distribute handmade items to enrich the lives of people in health care facilities or living with disabilities. After meeting with potential facilities and community groups to discuss their needs they create lap robes, shawls, stuffed hearts, and flat stuffed animals, and continue the project throughout the year. They partnered with the GFWC Central Valley Contemporary Club, church knitting groups, and other civic organizations to expand the program and increase the variety of handmade items of various creative mediums. Their goals of using the talent of members and offering individuals and local organizations a way to share their talents were successful.

**Garden District:** The Woman's Club of Pitman held a Scavenger Hunt in the Historical Museum of Pitman. With the museum curators they identified notable women of Pitman, women's careers/businesses, and events or clubs run or participated in by local women. Fourteen clues were created and distributed to members, who used the clues to walk through the museum and find items. This was a contest that created interest, pride, and fun in the cultural environment of the museum. Winners enjoyed a Dunkin' Donuts and Chick-Fil-A gift cards and certificates.

As we head into the season of gratitude, may your hands stay busy, your hearts stay full, and your creativity continue to shine. Whether you're stitching, sculpting, baking, or just appreciating the beauty around you, November is the month to gather and grow. That's makes our Woman's Clubs — and our state — so special.

## THE ARTS/PERFORMING COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

**Ann Ribinsky Brown**

**[brown@njsfwc.org](mailto:brown@njsfwc.org)**

Is your club still looking for an additional program? Try researching and then celebrating an international holiday; see if a club member or a community member has firsthand information, she would be willing to share. If not, ask for volunteers; it would be good to learn about the historical customs, food and entertainment of various cultures.

What is the history of Oktoberfest? Where and when did it start? How does the tradition carry down to us today? Where's the best place for us to participate in an Oktoberfest celebration?

Americans come alive on New Year's Eve. How is our holiday different from the Chinese New Year? In the Chinese calendar, 2025 is the Year of the Snake, specifically the Year of the Wood Snake. This year began on January 29, 2025, and will last until February 16, 2026.

## THE ARTS/PERFORMING COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM (Continued)

The holiday Cinco de Mayo originated in Mexico and is mostly ceremonial, marked by military parades and battle reenactments of the Battle of Pueblo. It was declared a Mexican national holiday by President Juarez in 1862. More popular in the United States than in Mexico, why and how do Americans celebrate Cinco de Mayo? Perhaps your last meeting of the club year could include a Cinco de Mayo celebration?

A fourth holiday to possibly investigate is Bastille Day, which for the French is July 14<sup>th</sup>, the anniversary of the storming of the Bastille in 1789. The French celebrate with military parades, fireworks, concerts and balls. A good Arts Performing club activity would be to find and attend a local production of Les Misérables.

## CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

[pogosaew@njsfwc.org](mailto:pogosaew@njsfwc.org)

Dawn Pogosaew

November is National Family Caregivers Month. There are approximately 65 million people throughout the United States that are caregivers, and chances are, you know a caregiver in your club or community. Caring for a family member at home can be overwhelming. While each situation is unique to the caregiver, they all share the same life changing impact they experience every day. There is a vast amount of information and services available for caregivers, but sometimes it is impossible to receive those services unless you meet certain criteria or the availability of those services located in your county. When you don't "qualify" for these services you are basically left on your own and it can take a toll on the caregiver physically, emotionally, and financially. You can show your appreciation to a caregiver by reaching out to them to let them know that you are there. Visit them at home and lend an hour of your time. Provide a thank you note, snack, or even a meal. And don't forget the many caregivers working at our nursing homes, hospitals, and home health aides! They too are providing care to ourselves, our families and community members.

Clubs can also show support to caregivers by creating a community outreach program. Find ways for your Club to let the community members know that you can be a resource for additional help. You can attend Community Networking Days or host your own and coordinate with the Municipality, local business, and other organizations. Provide information about your Club to new residents in a community welcome package. Or, just by attending local community gatherings, you can let the community know that your club is approachable and willing to help. By getting to know your community members, you will be able to recognize areas that help your club have a positive impact within your community.

## EDUCATION AND LIBRARIES COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

[murdock@njsfwc.org](mailto:murdock@njsfwc.org)

Joan Murdock

**Club Spelling Bee Manual...** Does your club want to hold its' very own Club Spelling Bee, but doesn't know where to start? Here is some information for you! Over the summer, this chairman prepared a Club Spelling Bee manual. Included is everything you want to know but might be afraid to ask!!! This information can be found on the NJSFWC website under Materials.

### How to Set up a Cub Spelling Bee

- Official Club Spelling Bee Rules
- Club Spelling Bee Introduction and Opening Speech
- Instructions for Registrars
- Instructions for Judges
- Sample Letter for Schools
- Sample Invitation for Judges
- Contestant Permission Slip
- A Sample Award Certificate 2026
- And a Practice Word List 8/25

Any questions contact this Chairman at [murdock@NJSFWC.org](mailto:murdock@NJSFWC.org).

Have you registered for the **BETWEEN THE PAGES** Book Club? No? Why not?

## EDUCATION AND LIBRARIES COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM (Continued)

This new program is open to any individual club member and/or your club's book club. You can choose any book from any genre! YES, any genre! AND you will receive a Between the Pages Book Club certificate at your District Spring Council when you complete reading books in one of these categories:

Category 1: 1-10 books read; Category 2: 11-20 books read; Category 3: 21 and over books read

You **must** Submit a small review of the book you have read. (See the Education and Libraries website for report form and more details.).

And once again... All you need to do is register with this chairman at [murdock@njsfwc.org](mailto:murdock@njsfwc.org).

### Creative Project...

During Read Across America Week this past March, 20 Members of the Woman's Club of Parsippany Troy Hills participated in reading to 203 children at the Parsippany & Lake Hiawatha Children's Library, Morris County HeadStart and Parsippany Day Care. Club members wore Cat in the Hat outfits and had as much fun as the children. At one of the libraries, they read "Green Eggs and Ham" and the children did a green egg and ham craft project with paints. It got wonderfully messy. Books were donated to each facility. The club members were asked to return and are in the process of starting new programs and reading dates to each of the programs.

## ENVIRONMENT COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

[bernice@njsfwc.org](mailto:bernice@njsfwc.org)

Dorothy Bernice

Are you going to have family dinner guests this holiday season? Try your favorite holiday recipes with fresh fruits and vegetables this year. Not only fresh but try to buy locally raised and freeze them yourself, if necessary. The USDA issues an annual list of the Clean 15 and the Dirty Dozen. Maybe center your menus after looking over the following lists.

The following 15 types of produce had the lowest pesticide residue levels of all 47 types sampled, according to the EWG's analysis of the most recent USDA data.

- |                                  |               |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Pineapple                     | 11. Bananas   |
| 2. Sweet corn (fresh and frozen) | 12. Mangoes   |
| 3. Avocados                      | 13. Carrots   |
| 4. Papaya                        | 14. Mushrooms |
| 5. Onions                        | 15. Kiwi      |
| 6. Sweet peas (frozen)           |               |
| 7. Asparagus                     |               |
| 8. Cabbage                       |               |
| 9. Watermelon                    |               |
| 10. Cauliflower                  |               |

Of the 47 items tested, the following 12 fruits and vegetables were found to be the most contaminated with pesticides, according to the latest USDA data.

1. Spinach
2. Strawberries
3. Kale, collard, and mustard greens
4. Grapes
5. Peaches
6. Cherries
7. Nectarines
8. Pears
9. Apples
10. Blackberries
11. Blueberries
12. Potatoes

*\*\*\*Bell peppers, hot peppers, and green beans were also included on the Dirty Dozen list due to their overall pesticide toxicity.*

**HEALTH AND WELLNESS COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM**  
**chambers2@njsfwc.org****Katie Chambers**

Did you know that November is National Caregiver Awareness Month? This is our chance to shine a light on the quiet heroes in our communities—those who provide care to loved ones, neighbors, or even strangers. Many are unpaid, often unrecognized, and always essential.

Caregivers come in many forms: adult children caring for aging parents, spouses supporting a partner through illness, grandparents raising grandchildren, or even volunteers who give their time to help someone in need. As clubwomen, supporting caregivers aligns beautifully with our mission of service. So, this chairman invites all of you to consider how your club might honor and uplift caregivers this November.

Here are just a few project ideas to get you started:

- Create “caregiver kits” with tea, snacks, hand lotion, and a handwritten note of encouragement.
- Host a relaxing event like a chair massage day or meditation workshop, just for caregivers in your community.
- Partner with a local senior center, hospital, or hospice organization to identify caregivers who could use a little extra support.
- Write thank-you cards and deliver them to caregivers in your area, especially those who may feel isolated or overlooked.
- Sponsor respite care for a few hours so a local caregiver can take a much-needed break—this could be done in partnership with a local agency or place of worship.

Whatever your club decides to do, the most important thing is to show caregivers that they are seen, appreciated, and not alone.

**November’s exercise tip for Let’s Get Moving:** Looking ahead to Spring, now is the perfect time to start planning a community walk or run! These events are a great way to promote wellness, raise awareness for important causes, and bring people together. Whether it’s a casual neighborhood stroll or a 5K with a purpose, your club can lead the way in making a positive impact. Start brainstorming routes, themes, or partners—and let’s get moving!

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**ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN****dimatties@njsfwc.org****Marie DiMatties****November is Fire Prevention Month.**

Your club might consider collecting and donating new, small stuffed animals to the Police/Fire Departments and First Responders to be given to children in traumatic situations. They will provide comfort to a child who needs it.

Additionally, your club can team up with the police or fire department to sponsor a workshop on issues for children such as bicycle safety, use of seatbelts and car seats, etc. You could also include some tips on what to do if in a fire situation.

Is your club participating in President McCloskey’s Grand Initiative by donating 130 children’s books? If so, be sure to report how many books you donated as well as how many organizations were the recipient of your books. A project description included in your report may even earn you an award!

With football season winding down, here’s another project your club might consider: The **Woman’s Club of Lacy** teamed up with The Lacy Township High School Cheerleaders and the Youth Football League to supply over 100 sets of coloring books and crayons for the Smile Bags which were sewn by club members for Operation Smile. Operation Smile is an organization that works hand in hand with communities throughout the world to offer free, life changing cleft surgeries. Twenty hours (20) and \$500 in-kind donations were reported.

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**COMMUNICATIONS****rothstein@njsfwc.org****Shelley Rothstein**

This month’s ALMANAC article is from the GFWC Communications and Public Relations Committee. The Importance of “Thank You”

## COMMUNICATIONS (Continued)

It is a common courtesy to say, "Thank you" for a gift, kind gesture, or a positive compliment. There is power when you take the time to thank someone. It can make people feel recognized, build confidence, foster a sense of camaraderie, and develop better relationships.

It is important to show gratitude to members, Federation leaders, sponsors, and guests for their contributions to your club. Special guests at meetings should receive a thank you card in addition to a small gift. Consider using Federation stationary so guests remember which organization you represent. Following a club event, it is appropriate to thank sponsors, contributors, and speakers who attended. Social media is an excellent way to express appreciation by tagging those individuals and highlighting them with photos. Of course, thanking them in person and publicly is highly recommended.

Show appreciation to your club members for leading a project and their dedication to the club. Many clubs present awards annually to say "Thank You" to members. Always recognize potential new members for attending your meeting with an invitation to your next meeting.

When writing a thank you note, it is important to highlight *why* you are thanking that person by including details from the event or interaction. Add your own special touch with a phrase, symbol, or personalized card stock.

Most importantly, "Always say Thank You; It's the greatest gift you can give someone." – Maya Angelou

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### CONVENTION

[finn@njsfwc.org](mailto:finn@njsfwc.org)

**Vivien Finn**

Convention 2025 is now a memory, and plans are being made for Convention 2026!

Mark your calendar for the 132<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention to be held at the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino in Atlantic City from Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> through Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2026. Initial plans have been made for what we hope will be a great time for all.

If you know of a Vendor who would like to participate, please contact Susan Fosdick at [fosdick@njsfwc.org](mailto:fosdick@njsfwc.org).

Further details will follow each month in the ALMANAC.

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### GFWC SIGNATURE PROJECT:

[hill@njsfwc.org](mailto:hill@njsfwc.org)

**Claire Hill**

### DOMESTIC & SEXUAL VIOLENCE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION

As the holiday season approaches consider donations to help the women in battered shelters with a Thanksgiving basket. One club donates baskets of all the holiday fixings including, pie, turkey, vegetables, and paper products.

Several clubs reported last year that they worked with Providence House. Thanksgiving food packages were donated to the over 40 families. Large quantities of personal care items were also donated to the families. A Holiday Shop was organized for families to use.

Montville Woman's Club donated Christmas items for the moms to wrap for their children.

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### HISTORIAN

[quilici@njsfwc.org](mailto:quilici@njsfwc.org)

**Randi Quilici**

This month, as our nation observes **Veterans Day**, Women's Clubs have long played vital roles during times of war, supporting troops, communities, and each other through service, remembrance, and storytelling.

## HISTORIAN (Continued)

Agnes A. Schermerhorn of the Woman's Club of Orange was the second President of NJSFWC to serve a three-year term from 1917-1920. As the club women of New Jersey geared up to meet the greater challenges of World War I, the tone was set.

The war brought patriotism to the forefront and the needs of the times called for work along new lines. The Federation "went to war" by supporting three Liberty Loan Drives, selling thrift stamps, and engaging in Red Cross and war relief work in response to the call for patriotic services. Several of the larger clubs who owned club houses gave these buildings over to the Red Cross work during World War I.

The clubs secured members for the war service classes which included training in arts and crafts and equipped them to become Reconstruction Aids for the rehabilitation of military personnel in hospitals. The Department of Industrial and Social Conditions took "Americanization" as the keynote for its efforts to promote better mental, moral, and social conditions for women in industry. In recognition of the Federation's work with the blind, the Governor appointed State President Agnes Schermerhorn to the Commission for the Blind.

At your next club meeting, consider devoting time for a **special Veterans Day discussion**. Invite members to:

- Share stories of military service, either their own or those of women in their families.
- Invite a local woman veteran to share her personal story and insights.
- Host a speaker from a local veterans' organization, such as the VFW, to bring a broader perspective on service and community support.
- Place American flags at the graves of veterans in your local cemetery.
- Reach out to local veterans' groups to offer help with existing memorial projects or ceremonies.

For those interested in attending a formal ceremony, the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMAVA) will host a statewide Veterans Day Ceremony on Tuesday, November 11, 2025, at 11:00 AM at the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial & Museum, Holmdel, NJ

These Veterans Day activities are ideal for inclusion in your **Club History for Report Writing**. Be sure to take notes so they can be preserved as part of your club's ongoing legacy. This Historian wants to hear from you!

The Top Ten Projects for 2024 are full of exciting ideas. Here are two that could inspire your club.

1. Fifteen members of the GFWC Woman's Club of Denville-Rockaway Area joined together to celebrate International Women's Day by going to the movies to see *Cabrini*. The film tells the inspiring story of an Italian immigrant woman who arrived in America in the early 1900s and organized support for the most vulnerable in New York City. The movie served as a poignant reminder that, even 100 years later, nonprofit organizations remain crucial in assisting those in need.
2. The Arlington Woman's Club EMD held its March meeting at the Kearny Museum, showcasing a Women's History Display. Three club members serve on the museum's board, including one who is the president. Attendees enjoyed a private guided tour, and a photo from the event was shared on the club's Facebook page. The 21-member club also contributed \$200 to support the museum.

## HONORS

[fairchild@njsfwc.org](mailto:fairchild@njsfwc.org)

**Cheryl Fairchild**

The 2026 Women of Achievement nominations deadline is November 15, 2025, which is rapidly approaching. To be eligible for this honor, each nominee must be a woman who has gained visibility in New Jersey for her contributions. The nomination form is included in the flyers section of the October 2025 and November 2025 ALMANACS and on the NJSFWC website under Materials – Honors, Awards, and Achievements.

This Chairman hopes you will look around your Club and Community. She is sure there are many deserving women for you to honor.

## LEGISLATION/RESOLUTIONS

wisner@njsfwc.org

Jacqueline Wisner

In keeping with the spirit of the Federal **Take It Down Act** - discussed in past reports - and passed in early 2025, New Jersey has taken even stronger steps to regulate children's online activity, citing mental health and safety concerns. These efforts, however, face steep First Amendment challenges.

The Federal **Take It Down Act** complements state efforts but targets a narrower harm: nonconsensual intimate imagery (NCII), including AI-generated deepfakes. It criminalizes distribution, empowers victims to demand removal, and requires platforms to take down flagged content within 48 hours. Unlike state laws that broadly regulate access, **Take It Down** is more likely to withstand constitutional review because it addresses speech categories already given less protection, such as nonconsensual sexual content. Research shows that courts have consistently upheld laws against obscenity and child sexual abuse material.

New Jersey bills under consideration would require parental consent for minors' accounts and mandate age verification. Governor Murphy also signed legislation creating a commission to study social media's impact on youth. These efforts mirror national trends but will likely encounter the same First Amendment objections: restrictions on minors' access to lawful speech, burdensome age verification schemes, content modification or removal, etc., which tend to be viewed as burdening speech.

Although it's an uphill battle, many states continue to move aggressively to regulate children's access to online platforms, citing concerns about exposure to harmful content and privacy. These efforts reflect growing public pressure on lawmakers to create a safer digital environment for minors. They are also in keeping with the GFWC concern for child welfare and the support for the **Take It Down Act**. You can add your voice in support of the fight against this challenge by going through the Legislative Action Center on the GFWC website. Register if you haven't already and send the prepared messages or write your own to your state and/or federal representatives. Your club can also send letters to your NJ legislators. Our children are depending on us.

## NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

hyrcenko@njsfwc.org

Lin Hyrcenko

By November 1, 2025, each club president should 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.

- The mailing explains the procedure to follow for the nomination/endorsement of a candidate to serve on the NJSFWC Board of Directors.
- A white Nomination Blank is 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. Eligibility rules for specific offices-
  - a. Candidates for the *President-Elect, First, or Second Vice President* shall have served as a member of the Board of Directors for at least four years at the time of the election, two of which shall be as an elected Trustee.



**NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS (Continued)**

- b. Candidates for the offices of *Recording Secretary*, *Corresponding Secretary*, *Treasurer*, and *Financial Secretary* shall have served as a member of the Board of Directors for at least two years at the time of the election.
- c. Candidates for the office of *District Vice President* shall be nominated by a club in her District.
- d. Candidates are also needed for the office of *Community Service Projects Chairmen*. Prior Board experience is not necessary.

**Nomination Instructions:**

Please include the following when returning the Nomination Blank:

1. Name, address, telephone number, and email of the nominee.
2. A black and white passport photo.
3. A narrative, not to exceed 200 words, describing the qualifications of the candidate.

Please return all information to Linda Hrycenko, Chairman of Nominations and Elections, NJSFWC Headquarters, 55 Labor Center Way, New Brunswick, NJ 08901, postmarked **NO LATER** than **January 6, 2026**.

Please feel free to contact Lin Hrycenko at (732) 406-3983 or hrycenko@njsfwc.org 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!

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**SPECIAL STATE PROJECT****shoemaker@njsfwc.org****April Shoemaker**

There is now a new hands-on project for Special State Project, the New Jersey Children's Alliance, called Operation Duffle Bags. Clubs are asked to donate no more than 2 duffle bags that will be used for children who need to leave their home in emergency situations.

Clubs can find complete information and instructions about the contents within this ALMANAC entitled NJSFWC SPECIAL STATE PROJECT. The program begins January 1, 2026 and runs through March 10, 2026. Duffle Bags can be brought to designated CAC Centers, as designated on the flyer or to Headquarters BEFORE March 10.

Any questions can be sent to this Chairman at the above email.

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**WEBMASTER****webmaster@njsfwc.org****Denise Hosier****Problems with Safari Browser Failing to Show Page Updates**

If you use Safari browser on a Mac computer, iPad, or iPhone, you might be seeing old web pages that are cached on your device. There is a known issue with Safari failing to recognize updated web pages if you have viewed those pages in the past. To resolve Safari's inability to display updated webpages, here are some suggestions to help:

**Quick Fixes**

1. **Force Reload the Page:** Hold down the Shift key and click the reload button, or press Command-R.
2. **Empty Caches:** To access the Develop menu, go to Safari > Preferences > Advanced and check the box to "Show Develop menu in menu bar". Then, from the menu bar, select Develop > Empty Caches.
3. **Open a Private Window:** Go to File > New Private Window to see if the page loads correctly without the cache and cookie data.

**More In-Depth Solutions****1. Manage Website Data:**

- Go to Safari > Preferences > Privacy.
- Click Manage Website Data and search for the specific website.
- Select the site and click Remove to clear its stored data.
-

## WEBMASTER (Continued)

2. **Disable Safari Extensions:**
  - Go to Safari > Settings (or Preferences) > Extensions.
  - Deselect each extension to turn it off and then relaunch Safari to test the page.
3. **Update macOS:**  
Ensure your Mac's operating system is up to date by going to Apple menu > System Settings (or System Preferences) > General > Software Update.
4. **Check for VPN or Security Software:**  
Temporarily disable any VPN or security software to rule it out as a cause.
5. **Restart Your Device:**  
A simple restart of your Mac, iPad, or iPhone can often resolve temporary glitches.

## PARLIAMENTARY CONSULTANT TO CLUBS

[drysten@njsfwc.org](mailto:drysten@njsfwc.org).....Roberta Drysten

### Bylaws and standing rules, what goes where?

The bylaws and standing rules are separate documents that serve different purposes.

#### Bylaws:

- **Purpose:** Bylaws are the **core governing document** of the club required for legal recognition and compliance. (As a (501) c3 organization, the club may be asked to submit this document to the IRS, the state, or the bank).
- **Content:** Addresses big-picture, fundamental rules of how the organization is structured and run including:
  - Official name, mission, and purpose
  - Membership rules
  - Board of directors (composition, terms, powers, election/removal process)
  - Officers (titles, duties, election/appointment)
  - Meeting requirements (annual meetings, notice, quorum)
  - Committees (standing vs. ad hoc, how created)
  - Conflict of interest provisions
  - Amendment procedures for the bylaws
- **Flexibility:** More difficult to change — requires a 2/3 vote of those present at a meeting, provided notice has been given.

#### Standing Rules:

- **Purpose:** Standing rules are separate guidelines that address the club's day to day operating rules and procedures.
- **Content:** Addresses practical matters and provides guidelines and details for club activities including:
  - Meeting logistics (e.g., location, start time)
  - Guidelines for use of the club's name, logo or branding
  - Policies on reimbursements for board members' expenses
  - Volunteer expectations or conduct codes
  - Communication protocols (e.g. email, social media)
  - Membership dues amounts
  - Procedures for club activities, events or committees not defined in bylaws
- **Flexibility:** Easier to change—can usually be updated by a simple majority vote (of the board or members) without the same notice requirements as bylaws.

#### Rule of Thumb:

- If it's **required by law, affects governance structure, or protects rights of members/board**, it belongs in the **bylaws**.
- If it's **procedural, operational, or subject to frequent change**, it belongs in the **standing rules**.