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# ALMANAC

State Newsletter

New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs of GFWC

March 2026



*The NJSFWC Executive Committee & Board*

Spring is right around the corner (as I write this, there is a foot of snow outside!) and brings with it many of our spring activities, such as District Arts Performing days, Spring Conference and Achievement days and hopefully, many pinwheel gardens for Prevent Child Abuse month in April.

- On that note, make sure to check your pinwheel inventory, and reorder in time for April pinwheel gardens. Let's see if we can achieve 130 pinwheel displays this year!

March is also Women's History Month. So, take some time to honor and recognize the contributions of women in GFWC, our Federation, and especially your members!

- If you do not have a copy of the book, *A Century of Challenge, the NJSFWC First 100 Years*, I encourage you to purchase one. It is well worth the \$10.00!
- There are still copies available at Headquarters, and this President always brings a copy to a club she is visiting.

Important Reminder: **Federation Dues are due and payable with the submission of the Yearbook Data form, also known as 'the Blue Sheet' by May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026.** Federation keeps \$10.00 from the \$25.00 from each club member to use towards our budget, with the other \$15.00 going to GFWC.

Now, with a membership of slightly over 6,000, this gives us approximately \$60,000 as a base to work with.

As you know, we do have fundraisers throughout the year to complement that total, but with fewer members, we are working with a lot less funds than we had in the past.

- The funds we receive from clubs, along with the fundraisers NJSFWC has throughout the year, help us to maintain our state Headquarters including all maintenance and insurance costs, electric and gas bills, the website, auditors, part time employees and other expenses needed for running the organization.

We are very lucky to have a Headquarters building where we can assist all the clubs from this location. Many states run their organizations from their state Presidents living rooms! Please be sure you share this information with your members.

- **The Yearbook Data form can be found on the front page of your Federation Yearbook, and on the NJSFWC website, under Materials and Forms.**
- **Also, watch for a form to be included in an upcoming eConnection.**

One last item to remember is the **Continuing Funds Form due to Headquarters, postmarked by April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026.** Please consider contributing to some or all of the items listed, as the totals are added together from all the clubs who send in a donation.

There is an explanation of the items listed on the Continuing Funds form on the NJSFWC website, under Materials and in the NJSFWC Yearbook.

Thank you again for all you do to support your communities and our Federation.

Happy St. Patrick's Day!  
In Federation Friendship,

*Barbara*

**P.S. Don't forget to purchase 50/50 raffle tickets! The drawing will be on May 6<sup>th</sup> at our State Convention**



**NJSFWC President-elect,  
Susan Chambers,  
chambers@njsfwc.org**

With spring, comes the time to think about new leaders to be elected in your clubs. Hopefully, you've been building leaders throughout your administration. Let's refresh how to do that:

1. Encourage new (and seasoned!) members to join club activities and begin them on a leadership path by being a co-chairman of a committee or program.
2. Be sure to share Federation news and ideas with your members; encourage participation in NJSFWC Workshops during the year and at Convention
3. Take advantage of each member's unique skills – what interests each member and what can each offer to the club?
4. Make sure members know your club's bylaws, standing rules and general procedures
5. Mentor members to become leaders – support, encourage, engage
6. Communication is key to keeping your members informed. Show your appreciation for what each member contributes

A great quote to keep in mind comes from Adena Friedman, CEO of Nasdaq:

“Empowering those around you to be heard and valued makes the difference between a leader who simply instructs and one who inspires.”

And there's still time to sign up for the March 5 Leadership Workshop at Headquarters.

**Encourage members to attend! Registration is at 10:00 a.m., with the Workshop to begin promptly at 10:30 a.m..** Learn how to mentor members into leaders, build confidence and decision-making skills, enhance team collaboration and motivation and master effective communication and problem-solving.

You'll hear success stories from innovative club leaders, learn how to inspire leadership and how to identify potential leaders. RSVP to this Officer at chambers@njsfwc.org or call 201-265-6282. Light refreshments will be available.



**NJSFWC First Vice President  
Chris Sienkielewski,  
sienkielewski@njsfwc.org**

Clubs have now submitted their reports and the time has come for our state Chairmen to read about the work our members have done throughout 2025. It is always amazing! Statistics are

brought together as one and we are so impressed! Each club who submits a report plays a role in the work done by NJSFWC. These statistics are then reported to GFWC. Imagine...clubs in all 50 states are making a positive difference in the world and when your club participates, you are an important part of that!

One observation I have made is that clubs do not include one or two project narratives on their report. Also, some club presidents and Chairmen have told me that the only way they can send in these reports is to look through their past year's agendas and minutes. But, there is an easier way – a Project Report Form. It can be given to each project chairman or club Community Service Program Chairman for keeping hours, fundraising and allowing them to write about a particular project right after it is completed. These can be collected before you write your reports and no more searching for statistics! A project report form is attached to this ALMANAC article.

**Be sure to sign up for the  
Leadership Workshop scheduled  
for March 5 at Headquarters.**

**See the flyer attached for details.**

**RSVP to President-elect, Susan  
Chambers at chambers@njsfwc.org**

**Or call 201-265-6282.**

**Get tips on helping your members  
become leaders!**

**All members are welcome.**



**NJSFWC Second Vice President**  
**Patricia Dahl, dahl@njsfwc.org**

### Membership Goals

How does your club plan Membership Goals for the new year? Do you plan:

- Meet and greets
- Membership Orientations
- Highlighting your members on social media to increase awareness
- Social Events

Does your club reflect on its achievements of the past year?

Do you set a goal for how many new members the club would like to gain?

Do you do a Membership Survey to know what your members are thinking and the direction they want to go?

Think about it: how do you keep your members engaged, interested and informed. Plan now for the new year ahead.

- ◆ **Consider coming to the Membership workshop at Convention: "All Aboard the Membership Train!" THIS OFFICER NEEDS YOUR HELP FOR THIS WORKSHOP! What questions would you like answered about Membership and were afraid to ask? PLEASE send me your questions by email so they can be answered.**

Also, REMEMBER: On the website there is a Member Recognition form for anyone who is celebrating 25 or 50 years in Federation. Also, on the form there is a section for any member of your club that has brought in two or more members during the club year! Include all that meet these qualifications. If needed add an additional page.

After completing the form, please submit it to the NJSFWC Second Vice President/Membership Chairman, Patricia Dahl, 576 Dew Court, Blackwood, 08012 or dahl@njsfwc.org by March 20th as the awards will be given out at your District

### **NJSFWC Treasurer, Linda Carbley** **carbley@njsfwc.org**

A reminder that the Continuing Funds Sheet is due to Federation Headquarters and must be postmarked by April 1, 2026. Please have your club consider donating to these great causes, every \$1 donated adds up.

Here is a brief summary of the various initiatives that you can contribute to (the form and explanation can be found on NJSFWC website under Materials, Forms & Manuals as well as in the Yearbook (page 200).

### Treasurer (Continued)

1. **Arts and Culture/Arts Performing:** Includes fellowships for art, drama, music, and creative writing students at Douglass College, as well as funding for arts-related events and facilities like the Walt Whitman Library and MacDowell New Hampshire Colony.
2. **Environment:** Scholarships for students in environmental and applied sciences, and funding for nature conservation efforts at Batsto Nature Center, Greenbrook Sanctuary, and Blackledge-Kearney House.
3. **Federation "Watchtower":** Established in 2011, this watchtower honors the Federation's successful advocacy in preserving the Palisades Cliffs from commercial development.
4. **Education and Libraries:** Various scholarships for Douglass students, including those for career-focused women, international exchange, survivors of domestic violence, and mature women returning to education.
5. **Health and Wellness:** Supports various programs like the Special Olympics, Project HOPE, UNICEF, and initiatives for eye health, with funding directed toward aiding vulnerable populations.
6. **Civic Engagement:** Includes a political science fellowship and support for veterans through donations to veterans' hospitals.
7. **Headquarters:** Funding for the maintenance, improvement, and refurbishment of the NJSFWC Headquarters, along with endowment funds for furthering the organization's work.
8. **Membership Promotion:** Contributions focus on increasing membership, creating new clubs, and enhancing the Federation's image.
9. **Shining Future Endowment Fund:** Supports scholarships, memberships, and initiatives for survivors of sexual abuse and human trafficking.
10. **Special State Project (2024-2026):** A new initiative supporting the New Jersey Children's Alliance, which provides services to victims of child abuse through Child Advocacy Centers.

Please note the new Bylaw which was passed at the May 2024 Convention:

**Federation Dues are now due and payable with the submission of the Yearbook Data form, also known as 'the Blue Sheet' by May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026.**

The Yearbook Data Form can be found on the front page of the Federation Yearbook as well on the NJSFWC website (under Materials and Forms).

**NJSFWC Financial Secretary, Debbie Cibelli**  
[cibelli@njsfwc.org](mailto:cibelli@njsfwc.org)

Thank you to everyone who sent in their reports for Fundraising. There were some really good and creative ideas that all size clubs will be able to do within their own club.

If you come to convention, this Officer will be sharing some ideas on raffles, one of the most asked questions of this Officer for their fundraising. This Officer hopes all will join in the interactive program "The ABCs of Raffles" program we have planned.

On another note, the District Vice Presidents as well as the Board of Directors received tickets for the Mega 50/50. Books of 10 tickets priced at \$10.00 per each ticket are available.

Our goal this year will be to raise \$10,000...So who's interested in possibly winning \$5,000? Last year one of our members won \$3,770.

The winning ticket will be pulled on the last day of the Convention, Wednesday May 6<sup>th</sup>.

The winner need not be present. If you are interested in a book or two of tickets, please contact this Officer, Debbie Cibelli, at [cibelli@njsfwc.org](mailto:cibelli@njsfwc.org) or contact her at 201-264-6428.

**COLLEGE DISTRICT, Laurel Dobalo**  
[dobalo@njsfwc.org](mailto:dobalo@njsfwc.org)

**Woman's Literary Club of Bound Brook** will have their annual covered dish fundraiser and a presentation on Easter Island, a Polynesian island famed for its archaeological sites.

**Branchburg Woman's Club** will learn how to decorate cookies with a spring theme.

**Bridgewater Woman's Club** features "The Life of Annis Boudinot Stockton" who was the wife and mother-in-law of two signers of the Declaration of Independence, performed by Alisa Dupy of Ladies of History.

**Cedar Wood Woman's Club** will discuss member's Irish Heritage and enjoy Irish Soda Bread and Irish music.

**Woman's Club of Clinton** will be doing a craft project for a local nursing home.

**Woman's Club of Cranbury** will attend an energy presentation at Princeton University.

**Franklin Woman's Club** will have a program about "Hobbsdown, The Forgotten Legacy of a Unique African American Community" in greater Bridgewater. They will also collect books in celebration of "Read Across America" week.

## COLLEGE DISTRICT (Continued)

**Greater Brunswick Area Woman's Club** will be doing an Easter project for the children at Women Aware.

**Hillsborough Woman's Club** will have a Game Night this month.

**Holland Township Woman's Club** will have a presentation on decluttering and organizing your home.

**North Brunswick Woman's Club** will be preparing treats for Meals on Wheels.

**Princeton Area Woman's Club** will be wrapping utensils for TASK and collecting reusable bags.

The **Suburban Woman's Club of South Plainfield** is decorating the main entrance of their local library with a Dr. Seuss display featuring books and wooden characters. Club information will be included in the exhibit.

The **Woman's Club of Tewksbury Township** will partner with the Tewksbury Parks Department to host the 3rd annual Egg Extravaganza. Over 2,000 eggs will be filled and hidden.

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

**Gloucester County Women's Club** is selling their raffle tickets to benefit the club's Adopt-A-Family project. Members have decorated over 200 rolls of toilet tissue for Cathedral Kitchen to use as centerpieces and give away.

**The Haddon Fortnightly** – To celebrate America's 250th Birthday, the club had the Ministers of Apollo perform authentic early American music paired with brief historic narrations, and they sponsored an Art Contest in their local grammar school for the cover page of their note cards.

**The Haddon Fortnightly EMD** held a Bingo Frenzy, Casino Night to help raise funds for their building's maintenance, scholarship and other programs/projects they support. The club donated blankets to Operation Smile.

**Marlton Woman's Club** kicked off 2026 with their annual Healthy Bodies Challenge. The club provided a breakfast at Ronald McDonald House. Eleven (11) new members joined during the 2025-2026 club year to date.

**Women's Club of Merchantville** is planning for their annual Basket Auction and an afternoon of BINGO to raise funds for their annual scholarships and charity donations.

**Woman's League of Mount Holly** is sponsoring three (3) delegates to GCI this year. Their Sisterhood of Sewers made 47 cosmetic bags with 37 going to Providence House and 10 were used as prizes for the Samuel Miller Facility Bingo that the club runs each month.

**Woman's Club of Pennsville/Carneys Point, Inc.** donated Meals on Wheels Holiday Gift Bags and had a successful Soup Sale.

The **Woman's Club of Pitman** is increasing their membership with younger, working members, eager to keep the club going forward and alive. The club now has a

## GARDEN DISTRICT (Continued)

Facebook page. They will be holding their 6th annual Clothing Drive this Spring.

**Porch Club of Riverton** provided The Cathedral Kitchen with sandwiches and chili. This month they are having an evening with local authors.

**Woman's Club of West Deptford** members enjoyed a Trivia Night, a Galantine's Day gift exchange, and a Dessert Night and are now looking forward to a Phillies Game Night Out. The club partnered with a local church providing child care to people donating blood. Their crayon recycling program donated 72 pounds of crayons in 2025.

**Woman's Club of Woodstown's** "Letters from Santa" project saw 12 members write over 223 letters from Santa. Their "Warming Trees" placed around their town collected 227 items. Members donated boxes of kid's Valentine cards to the Women's Shelter.

The District's Day of Service collected 151 bras/sports bras, 3,950 feminine hygiene products and 46 pairs of briefs to be donated to I Support the Girls, Inc. The value of the items is estimated to be \$4,657.00. One club provided lunch for 100 seniors and another made fleece blankets for Operation Smile.

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

**Woman's Club of Boonton** along with the Boonton Library, held a High Tea, inviting the community. Collecting wish list items for GCI.

**Woman's Club of the Denville-Rockaway Area** held a club Spelling Bee for 4th and 5th grade students from schools in the Rockaway Borough and Township and Denville Township.

**Hopatcong Woman's Club** collected items for the veterans at the Lions Veterans hospital. Providing two filled duffle bags to Ginnie's House in Newton.

**Junior Woman's Club of Jefferson Township** held a 2nd grade art contest and Valentine for Vets. In March, holding its annual Bunny Brunch.

**Long Valley Woman's Club** held its major fundraiser, an Antiques Show, on February 28th at the Long Valley Middle School.

**Long Valley Junior Woman's Club** in March, kicking off its 27th annual Photo Contest and holding a Trivia Night. Planning for their participation in the July Community Night Out.

**Woman's Club of Parsippany-Troy Hills** provided refreshments (breakfast and lunch) for the January Highlands Council and Program Assistance Day. Held its annual club Spelling Bee with 25 participants.

**Roxbury Woman's Club** baked cookies for a Valentine's celebration for Roots and Wings, an organization which works for those who have aged out of the foster care

## HIGHLANDS DISTRICT (Continued)

system. Selling discounted Hershey Park tickets as a fundraiser.

**Sparta Woman's Club** in March, will hold its annual cookie/candy project, baking cookies and distributing them to local organizations. Celebrated 'Heart Healthy Month' in February with speakers from the Sussex County Department of Public Nursing.

**Thursday Morning Club** hosted the Highlands January Council and Program Assistance Day at the Madison Community House. Held a Scholarship Social to raise funds to sponsor students for GCI and HOBY. Invited teens to its annual Prom Boutique with donated dresses, shoes, and jewelry for those who might not attend proms because of the cost. Hosting the Highlands Arts Performing Day on March 11.

**Vernon Township Woman's Club** installed 11 new members who joined in 2025 at the January General meeting. Had Soothing Paws Therapy dogs as the February program. Baked dozens of nut-free cookies for donation to The Homestead Rehabilitation and Health care Center in Newton and to the Sussex County Domestic Abuse & Sexual assault Intervention Services (DASI).

**West Morris Junior Woman's Club** held its 30th annual Spelling Bee for 4th and 5th graders.

**LIBERTY DISTRICT, Susan Chambers**  
[chambers@njsfwc.org](mailto:chambers@njsfwc.org)

The **Woman's Club of Allwood** celebrated their members by recognizing the number of years, by decade, with a little gift for each. They had a fundraiser at Pizzeria Uno to benefit the little Clifton Little Free Pantry.

The **Woman's Club of Arlington** held a High Tea at a Kearny nursing home. They also held a club social with an ice breaker.

The **Woman's Club of Arlington EMD** is taking part in the Special State Project Duffle Bag collection and on March 14 will hold a dinner and show fundraiser entitled a Sherlock Holmes Murder Mystery. Contact Chairwoman Sandra McCleaster for info at [sandy-bob47@comcast.net](mailto:sandy-bob47@comcast.net).

The **Woman's Club of Belleville** is also taking part in the Duffle Bag collection for our SSP. Their annual poetry contest for the local schools has 239 entries.

The **Woman's Club of Berkeley Heights** is also supporting NJCA with the Duffle Bag project. They held a bake less bake sale to support their volunteer rescue squad. They celebrated the Chinese Lunar New Year with origami and viewing artifacts a member brought back from a visit to China.

The **Women's Club of Carlstadt's** monthly dessert group met at Holstein's Ice Cream in Bloomfield (the sight of the infamous last episode of The Sopranos). A

## LIBERTY DISTRICT (Continued)

member did a presentation to the club on her travels to the Holy Land.

The **Woman's Club of Little Falls** had a presentation by their county Chief of Domestic Violence and another by a physical therapist who emphasized strength and balance.

The **Woman's Club of Maplewood** held a no-sew blanket making workshop to help kids who could use a warm hug. Members enjoyed the Maplewood Strollers presentation of "Narnia, the Musical." They continue to collect linens and sheets for the local animal shelter. Co-presidents Elaine Collins and Judy Cronin wrote to their members: "All those things we do add up and we do make a difference. We can even make things better by being kinder, smiling a bit more, being present to what people are saying and being more respectful to one another." Great advice for all!

The **Woman's Club of Upper Montclair** will feature a program by their member Heather Zises on her award-winning book "50 Contemporary Women Artists." Their member Trautie Becker will cook up Shepard's Pie in celebration of St. Patrick's Day for the club. An "Old Bag Sale" of gently used handbags will be a highlight.

The **Roseland Junior Woman's Club** did a winter clothes/coats/sock collection. They collected food pantry collection for Roseland, Caldwell and West Caldwell and held a Valentine's social for Roseland Senior Citizens.

## PALISADES DISTRICT, Janet Drogo

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

**Palisades District** club women are busy filling duffel bags for the Special State Project, NJCA, and working on their Achievement Day entries.

**Book & Needle Club of Oradell** will celebrate Women's History Month with a historical presentation about Emily Warren Roebling, the woman behind the completion of the construction of the Brooklyn Bridge given by Simon Level.

**Woman's Club of Carlstadt** will hold their annual Bunco Night on March 13 with a 50-50 raffle and a Tricky Tray.

**Cresskill Woman's Club** will hold the Annual Military Bridge and Tricky Tray on March 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Closter Women's Club of New Jersey**, the newest club in the Palisades District, now has 70 members. They meet in person quarterly and hold the rest of their meetings on Zoom.

**Woman's Club of Dumont** will have a Brown Bag Auction at their March meeting.

**Woman's Club of Englewood** is supporting the Menstrual Equality Program of Bergen County by collecting products and delivering them to the program organizers.

**Greater Pascack Valley Woman's Club** is holding their annual Military Bridge & Tricky Tray on March 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Woman's Club of Haworth** will present a program "Ye Old Department Stores" given by Robbie Amodeo.

## PALISADES DISTRICT (Continued)

**New Milford Woman's Club** will host their annual Potluck luncheon in March.

**Woman's Club of Old Tappan** will have a Brown Bag Auction at their March meeting.

**Woman's Club of Paramus** is planning a Bunco Night in the Spring.

**Woman's Club of Ridgefield Park** will be making Easter tray favors for the Brightside nursing home.

**Woman's Club of Rutherford** will hold their annual St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef and Cabbage and will be drawing the winning ticket for their 50-50 raffle.

**Woman's Club of Westwood** donated to the Bergen County Project Homeless. Their Book Club is reading TWICE by Mitch Albom.

## RAMAPO DISTRICT, June Witty

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

**Allendale Woman's Club** will conduct SHARE, a social feature of fun, hands on crafting where they will be creating beautiful vases using dried flowers and a little "hodgepodge" magic! In addition, the Executive Board will host a fun-filled night of board games.

**Woman's Club of Franklin Lakes** will host a speaker from the Bergen County Dept. of Safety and Consumer Protection. The presenter will discuss common and new scams and ways to protect yourself against fraud.

**Montville Township Woman's Club** continues to support our SSP along with the members' commitment to sustainability in collaboration with Pompton Lakes Woman's Club in collecting and recycling bottle caps along with other caps with a total so far of 213 pounds. This Club continues to support our Veterans overseas by collecting coupons and sending them to 13 international bases. In addition, they help provide items on the wish list of Veterans Haven North, a transitional housing support for homeless vets.

**Pines Lake Woman's Club Inc.** will celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday with the collection of his books and reading of this famous author.

**Pompton Lakes Woman's Club** will be busy selecting a Budget, Nominating, Honor Roll, and Delegate committee for 2026. The delegates will be those for the NJSFWC Convention in May.

**Suburban Woman's Club of Pompton Plains** will be working on fleece blankets with pockets for cancer patients at a local hospital. The Club will be busy working on a Tricky Tray, and they are grateful for the many sister clubs' continued support.

**Woman's Club of Ramsey** will be hosting a Military Bridge. Practice sessions will be available for those wanting to learn or improve; with the fundraiser date of April 23, there will be plenty of time to master your hand!

**Woman's Club of Ridgewood** is planning on a lunch to honor local Veterans.

## RAMAPO DISTRICT (Continued)

**Saddle Brook Woman's Club** will be gathering items to put together 60 Easter Baskets that will be delivered to a local church who will then distribute them to needy families.

**Woman's Club of West Milford Township** will have a workshop on "Blankets & Bears" to donate to hospitals and shelters and First Responders, to help comfort young children or anyone in a crisis. They also collect pet beds for the local shelter.

## SHORE DISTRICT, Karen Osborne osborne@njsfwc.org

**Woman's Club of Asbury Park** is having a comedy night planned for March 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Woman's Club of Belmar** will have The Master Gardener from Rutgers University for a program.

**Woman's Club of Brick Township** will host their second blood drive of 2026. They are also participating in Operation Duffle Bag and tickets are on sale for their Spring fundraiser at Uncle Vinnie's Comedy Club.

**Jersey Coast Women's Club** will do a sing-along at the Magnolia Gardens Nursing Home as well as making tray favors for them. They're also collecting clothing to be sent to the Dominican Republic.

**Woman's Club of Little Silver** will be gathering items for their "Another Woman's Treasure" fundraiser. They are finalizing changes to their by-laws and will visit The Plant Place to make terrariums.

**Woman's Club of Middletown** will be preparing for Easter by filling 50 decorated coffee cans for a local food pantry, making Easter baskets for 180 Turning Lives Around, creating tray favors for Alzheimer's patients and for a local nursing home as well as collecting nonperishable foods for a second food pantry.

**Woman's Club of Point Pleasant** will hold a Spring Bunco and their Annual Tea for Women's History Month with a performance of Louisa May Alcott.

**Woman's Club of Spring Lake** will be marching in the Belmar St. Patrick's Day parade. A bunco is planned and they will be delivering Operation Duffle Bag contributions. Weekly line dancers and Irish dancers

are still going strong. Meetings are also on Zoom for the Snowbirds who can't attend. Some members are having a meet up with their Snowbirds.

**Stafford Township Woman's Club** will be having a Bunco and will have a dress rehearsal before performing at the District Performing Arts Day with 32 members.

## SOUTHERN DISTRICT, Carole Speechley speechley@njswc.org

**Woman's Club of Absecon** assembled 30 First Night Kits for Day of Service, with extra items given to the Atlantic County Women's Center. They'll participate in Absecon's Clean Up Day and Shredding event. Twenty-six 2026 calendars were collected and given to Preferred Care of Absecon.

**Women's Community Club of Cape May** is having a Soup and Sandwich Fundraiser from March 9<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>, at Mulligan's in Wildwood. Their speaker for March is from the Think Thin Health Group.

**Country Shore Woman's Club's** Penny Party raised \$1400 for food banks and an animal rescue. On March 21<sup>st</sup> they're having a Restaurant Bingo, with proceeds going for scholarships, food banks and a local pageant.

In February, the **Colony Club of Ocean** collected food for the local food cupboard. They continue to visit seniors at the Shores and collected Valentines for them. They'll celebrate International Women's Day at Yesterday's restaurant.

**Woman's Civic Club of Hammonton** is partnering with the Historical Society for a Woman's History Event in March. They will hold their Music Bingo fundraiser at DiMatteo's Winery on March 1st. The Prom Closet is set with free formal attire for the upcoming season.

**Millville Woman's Club** will host the district's Arts Performing Day. They help the City of Millville clean up the two block area around their clubhouse. They'll hold their annual Irish luncheon/meeting on March 12th. The program will be about seeing eye dogs.

**Woman's Club of Vineland** held a Go Red for Women cardio drumming fundraiser benefitting the American Heart Association in February. They're collecting new children's books to be delivered to Inspira Hospital for their newborn and pediatric units. They'll be holding a used book and jigsaw puzzle sale at their clubhouse in

## THE ARTS AND CULTURE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM, Kathleen Reddick, reddick@njsfwc.org

**Celebrate a famous woman artist:** "The artist must be a little bit mad. Everybody's a little mad, except the artist." Yes, crazy is as crazy does. This is a quote from Maria Martinez, a renowned woman Native American potter from the San Ildefonso Pueblo in New Mexico is an example.

**Find a new artistic medium:** There are many benefits from trying a new craft, such as stress relief, community building, and mindfulness.

**Another Top Ten Club of NJSFWC in 2024:** The Porch Club of Riverton held two demonstrations and workshops on Flower Hammering. This art medium transfers "ink" from flowers onto paper. They coupled this with an Ice Cream Social. Members were quick to learn and went home with their results and ideas for summer projects. This is a rare and interesting artistic technique, which uses natural pigments to create botanical prints. Now there's a new methodology for most of us.

## ARTS AND CULTURE (Continued)

### Achievement Days Count Down

Achievement Days are the most significant events that Arts and Culture organizes in all eight Districts. Each of the District Chairmen go above and beyond to meet all deadlines and work diligently to make their District's Achievement Day organized, efficient, memorable and highly successful. There's still time to register for most of the Achievement Days.

Some new things added this year:

- Glassworks – a new category
- A new award: Honorable Mention;
- There will be no Grand Prizes this year: First, Second, and Honorable Mention are the award levels.

The State Achievement Day will be held at the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino on May 4, 2026 at the NJSFWC Convention. Plan to come and stay for all the fun and activities.

### THE ARTS/PERFORMING COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM, Ann Ribinsky Brown, [brown@njsfwc.org](mailto:brown@njsfwc.org)

Thank you to all for your participation in the Performing Arts Community Service Program. To those clubs submitting a year-end report, thank you. This Chairman enjoyed reading all the writing entries; and new for this year, the winners will be on display at Convention. As March begins, this Chairman looks forward to the District Performing Arts Days and seeing the creative talents of our members on stage.

March has been officially designated by the National Association of Music Education for the observance of Music in Our Schools Month, the time of year when music becomes the focus of schools and communities across the nation. The positive impact of music education in the life of students lasts a lifetime. This school year (2025-2026), the theme for Music in Our Schools is "United through Music."

As a nice transition between this year's snowy winter and the anticipation of spring, attend a musical or drama presented at a local high school or community college. You will be pleasantly surprised.

### EDUCATION AND LIBRARIES COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM, Joan Murdock, [murdock@njsfwc.org](mailto:murdock@njsfwc.org)

#### *Between the Pages Book Club News*

Our *Between the Pages* Book Club will be ending on March 15<sup>th</sup>. This Chairman would like to thank the 33 Individual Members and four (4) Club Book Clubs who signed up to participate as of this writing for the *Between The Pages* Book Club.

Certificates will be awarded at each District Spring Conference to members who submitted book reviews.

## EDUCATION AND LIBRARIES (Continued)

This month's *Between the Pages* book reviews:

Merci Norwood from the Greater Pascack Valley Woman's Club reviewed *Things I Wish I Told My Mother*, by Susan Patterson. "This was a very easy book to read. It is a story of a young woman who goes to visit her mother in the hospital after her mother had a minor heart attack and promises her that if she gets well enough again, they will travel and visit Paris. The mother regains her strength and the story follows all their laughs, arguments, and travels. I promise the twist at the end will take you by surprise!"

*Hello Beautiful* by Ann Napolitano was reviewed by Deborah Jacobsen from the Long Valley Woman's Club. Her review: "*Hello Beautiful* is about the Padavano's, a devout Italian Catholic family in Chicago, from 1960 to 2008. The main layer shows the complicated repercussions when one daughter, Sylvie, falls in love with her older sister's ex-husband, the troubled William. This tearjerker earns five stars."

*The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray was reviewed by JoAnn Becher of the Woman's Club of Asbury Park. "This book is an historical fiction book about Bella da Costa Greene, who worked for JP Morgan as his personal librarian. She was a black woman living as a white woman in a man's world and building one of the worlds' most important collections of rare books and art."

Thank you to our *Between The Pages* members who sent in these reviews!!!

### ENVIRONMENT COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM, Dorothy Bernice, [bernice@njsfwc.org](mailto:bernice@njsfwc.org)

Landfills aren't sustainable. We dump non-biodegradable materials in pits in the ground and bury them with dirt. That trash will sit underground for millennia! Rather than stuffing landfills with unnecessary trash, why not reuse it.

Use paper egg cartons as seed starter containers for any number of seeds. It is best to pick plants with fibrous shallow roots like lettuce, peppers or any herbs which will take six to eight weeks to germinate. Once there is no danger of frost, the plants can be moved outside into the ground or into outdoor planters. Dig holes as big as the root balls and transplant the plants into the holes. Don't remove the containers from the seedlings as the disruptive action may cause the roots to break. The containers will decompose, letting the roots creep out into your garden soil. You will have to ensure they are watered, and no pests invade them but you should see them growing a few weeks after moving them outside.

Starting your own vegetable plants is important as food insecurities become more and more apparent. If your club is looking for a project, they can join churches, schools, hospitals, community centers, and clubs that have converted their buffer zones from grass patches to fruit and vegetable gardens for distribution to those in need. Some work with food pantries to provide planters to their guests to raise their own fruits and vegetables. There is something about allowing them to grow their own plants

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## ENVIRONMENT (Continued)

which gives people a feeling of accomplishment. The Arbor Day Foundation has found that planting fruit trees in poorer neighborhoods has improved the life of those neighborhoods. You can also contribute funds which you can specify be used to plant more fruit trees.

## HEALTH AND WELLNESS COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM, Katie Chambers, chambers2@njswc.org

Our mental wellbeing is just as important as our physical health. Decluttering can be a powerful way to reduce stress and restore a sense of calm. When our surroundings are cluttered, our minds often feel the same way: overstimulated, distracted, and overwhelmed. Clearing out unnecessary items creates visual order, which can help lower anxiety and improve focus. Even small efforts, like organizing a drawer or clearing a countertop, can give a quick sense of accomplishment and control, reminding us that we can create peaceful spaces in our daily lives.

Beyond the physical benefits to our space, decluttering supports emotional well-being. Letting go of items we no longer need can feel freeing, especially when those items carry guilt, unfinished intentions, or outdated expectations. The act of sorting and simplifying encourages mindfulness and reflection, helping us prioritize what truly serves us now. Over time, a more organized environment can support better sleep, improved mood, and a renewed sense of energy, all important components of overall health and wellness.

**March's exercise tip for Let's Get Moving:** Remember: cleaning counts! Cleaning and decluttering aren't just good for your home — they're good for your body too. Activities like vacuuming, scrubbing, lifting boxes, or making multiple trips up and down stairs get your heart rate up and engage your muscles. Put on some music, stretch before you start, and move with intention to turn everyday cleaning into light-to-moderate exercise. It's a great reminder that staying active doesn't always require a gym. Sometimes it starts right at home!

## ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN, Marie DiMatties, dimatties@njswc.org

The month of March features children's literacy. Plan a project that focuses on reading and learning. Volunteer to read!

Monday, March 2, 2026 is National Read Across America Day. Contact your local schools and offer to read a Dr Seuss book to several classes, leaving a copy of the book behind.

The Haddon Fortnightly sponsors a "Reading Buddies" program. Members go to a local school and have the children in kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade read to them once a month.

## ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN (Continued)

The children and teachers are delighted with this partnership.

Hold a book drive of children's books and donate them to a local shelter or place them in a laundromat for children to read and take home.

Alternatively, you club can participate in a March for Babies event. Information can be found at: [www.marchofdimes.com](http://www.marchofdimes.com).

Whatever your club does this month, literacy will enrich the lives of the children in your community.

## COMMUNICATIONS, Shelley Rothstein, Rothstein@njswc.org

This month's ALMANAC article comes from Becky Bolden, GFWC Communications and PR Chairman.

Passwords are used with social media accounts, bank accounts, websites, emails, PayPal, Zoom, Canva, YouTube, and many more. It is important to have a written policy on the storage of these passwords and a transition plan to the next administration because these passwords belong to your GFWC club, not to any club member.

Methods to store your club passwords include electronic applications that store your passwords in an encrypted vault, accessible only with your master password. Some of the electronic methods require a subscription, and others are free or discounted for non-profit organizations. Other alternative methods of storing passwords are Google Sheets or Docs, an Excel spreadsheet, a thumb drive, and keeping them on paper. Having the information documented is the most critical part!!!

Information to include when storing passwords is the name of the account, the purpose of the account, the URL, the username, the Password, the security questions, the name and phone number associated with the account, the last changed date, and any other pertinent information.

When creating passwords, use a combination of letters, numbers, and symbols. Always include a capital letter. Try not to use names and recognizable words.

Who controls the passwords for your club? The President, 1st VP or President-elect, and CPR Chairman are usually good choices. A recovery email and phone number are usually required when setting up accounts. The email should be the Club email account, so it is transitioned between administrations. It is important to change the passwords at the beginning of each administration. In addition, the previous users are changed to the current ones.

It is important to include an IT policy in your Standing Rules. The language should include who has access, the procedure of transitioning between administrations, and the policy of storing club passwords and club documents.

## CONVENTION, Vivien Finn, finn@njsfwc.org

Club Presidents received the CALL to Convention in February and it is hoped that you have shared the information with your members. **CALL TO CONVENTION 2026 CORRECTION-** The Code for Hard Rock Casino & Hotel Room Reservations as listed in the CALL to Convention 2026 and Instructions for the Hotel is incorrect. The Correct Code for Room Reservations is **GCLB26Z**.

In the second year of the Administration it is the tradition to honor our State President, the President -Elect and the two Vice Presidents at the Sunday night dinner. The Committee has some surprises for the evening and we look forward to seeing you all.

Monday morning starts with a walk on the Boardwalk with our President, Barbara McCloskey, or you can join Judy Bonato with DRUM2BFIT. At 11:30 am, bring your lunch and join Second Vice President, Patricia Dahl, for "Bring a Friend; Make a Friend".

Arts and Culture and Environment entries can be brought to the Brighton Ballrooms from 9:00 am- 1130 am to be judged. Don't forget to stop by to see our Vendors, Federation Sales, and Perritt Labs in Brighton 1 on Monday and Tuesday.

The Opening Session of Convention convenes at 1:30 pm with the Honor Guard followed by the reports of the Executive Committee. The DVPs from College, Garden, Highlands, and Liberty will also report followed by the awards for Best Reported Work by the Standing Committee Chairmen. Proposed Bylaw changes will be voted on at this session.

Monday evening, we will be "Toasting the Accomplishments" of five outstanding Women of Achievement.

More next month!

## CREDENTIALS & REGISTRATION, Carole Thompson, thompson@njsfwc.org

By this time, all Club Presidents, Past State Presidents and members of the NJSFWC Board of Directors should have received the "CALL to Convention" which was mailed in early February. Please review the CALL package carefully and return all registration forms as soon as possible.

**NOTE:** the forms that should be returned are on BLUE paper. They are:

- **Registration & Meals form-** keep a copy for your records
- **Club Presidents' Processional form** – this must be returned if your President/Co-Presidents are to process at the Tuesday Night Banquet honoring Club Presidents
- **Workshop Pre-Registration form**

**Voting Registration Sheet – (white paper) -ONLY** Club Presidents receive this. **ALL club delegates & Alternates** must be listed on this form. The Past

## CREDENTIALS & REGISTRATION (Continued)

State Presidents and members of the NJSFWC Board of Directors are automatically Delegates. The NJSFWC Bylaws states "**No Delegate or Alternate shall be registered to represent more than one state organization**"

Just as a reminder, the registration form should be mailed with ONE CLUB CHECK covering the amount due for your club members registration and meals. The check should be made payable to NJSFWC Annual Convention, earmarked Credentials and Registration and sent to Carole Thompson, 887 Route 539, New Egypt, NJ 08533, along with the other sheets that apply. This **must be postmarked no later than April 4, 2026**. After that date the late fee must be included with your payment. NO registrations postmarked after April 12, 2026, will be accepted.

To attend the **workshops**, be sure to fill out the Workshop Pre-Registration form and your name will be added to the attendance list of the workshops you choose.

Now is the time to make your hotel reservations. You **must contact the Hard Rock Hotel directly** following the instructions in the CALL. You must register with the Hotel **before April 15, 2026**, to receive the discounted rate.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Credentials and Registration Chairman, Carole Thompson, [thompson@njsfwc.org](mailto:thompson@njsfwc.org) or 609-468-4039.

## FALL CONFERENCE/PROGRAM ASSISTANCE

**Tina Ree, ree@njsfwc.org**

This Chairman wants to thank all the clubs who submitted their Program Information report forms. There were so many interesting programs this year. She also wants to thank all the clubs who submitted a separate narrative for each program that was held at their meetings. The narrative with a description of the program was a great help in compiling the list for each district that will be put up on the website.

Last year she included all programs, projects, workshops, potluck luncheons and the fun outings clubs submitted and put all up on the website. This year she will only be posting programs that have had speakers or entertainment held at their meetings.

A few programs that intrigued her were "Ladies of History" a historical theatrical presentation on women in history and "Stitches in Time" about women's fashion of different centuries. Both programs were submitted by the **Woman's Club of Clinton in the College District**.

Another program that many clubs held was on "Types of Fraud & Prevention Strategies". It was well received by all club members since there are so many scammers out in the world today.

Going forward all presidents can inform their program chairman that projects like filling veterans' stockings, holding a potluck dinner, going out for a luncheon or making a craft are considered a project or a workshop and not a program.

## FALL CONFERENCE/PROGRAM (Continued)

Programs are considered a program when a speaker or entertainer attends a club meeting and either speaks, entertains or educates club members. She hopes this explanation helps the chairman to make it easier to fill out their reports in the future

## DOMESTIC & SEXUAL VIOLENCE

### AWARENESS & PREVENTION, Claire Hill,

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

The [2025-26 NJSFVC Second Chance Domestic Violence Survivors Award](#) deadline has been extended to March 31, 2026

According to the United States Department of Homeland Security human trafficking involves the use of force, fraud, or coercion to obtain some type of labor or commercial sex act. Every year, millions of men, women, and children are trafficked worldwide – including right here in the United States. It can happen in any community and victims can be any age, race, gender, or nationality. Human trafficking is a huge business. Share this information with your club members and tell them to be sure to be present with their children and grandchildren when attending events.

Your club can advocate and educate intimate partner violence. Domestic or intimate partner violence is an epidemic and a prevalent problem. Those in danger can call 911 for help and get medical care, if needed. Assemble SHARP (Stalking, Harassment and Rape Prevention) kits and donate them to Rape Crisis Center. Kit contains a cell phone, charger, small paper tablet and pen, a small flashlight, a whistle, a datebook and canister of pepper spray in a non-transparent cosmetic bag.

Partner with local school departments to help implement a school based prevention program for middle and high school students designed to stop or prevent the initiation of dating violence, victimization and perpetration.

### HEADQUARTERS, Adrienne Fowler

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

We are all honored that we are one of the few states that have a brick-and-mortar Headquarters. We all know that every club is allowed to use the Headquarters once each year for any event other than a fundraiser.

Our Headquarters has also gone through some repairs recently, the front and back steps were repainted, and all the handrails were replaced.

Headquarters was also made more beautiful with the lovely brick Honor and Memorial in the front.

## HEADQUARTERS (Continued)

Just a reminder that the deadline for the 1894 Society for this year is March 31, 2026. There are still S&H Green Stamp pins available for those making a donation of \$60.00 or more.

Thank you to the many members and clubs who have already donated towards the \$21,000 fee Rutgers charges us for leasing the land that our Headquarters building sits on.

Although we celebrated the 60th Anniversary of the building in late November, May 1, 1966 was the actual day the building was formally dedicated.

Since the year 2015 was 50 years since the original land lease agreement was signed, that was why we celebrated in 2025, making it 60 years since the contract was signed.

### HISTORIAN, Randi Quilici

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

Women's History Month (March) is a wonderful chance for clubs to educate and celebrate while highlighting the power of women past and present. Here are several **ready-to-use ideas** you can tailor to your club size, budget, and community:

- **Invite a local woman leader** (educator, nonprofit director, entrepreneur, elected official, veteran, artist) to speak about her journey.
- **Author talk or book discussion** featuring a woman writer or a biography of a notable woman.
- **Spotlight a Woman of the Week** on your website, newsletter, or social media.
- Collect **personal care items** or gift cards for a domestic violence shelter or women's transitional housing.
- Hold a **career-closet clothing drive** for job-seeking women.
- Assemble **comfort kits** for women veterans or women in hospitals.
- Host a **career exploration or confidence-building workshop** for girls.
- **Tea or luncheon honoring long-time members** and sharing club history.
- Invite a nonprofit to explain **how they support women and girls**.
- Present **Women of Distinction Awards** to local unsung heroes.
- Recognize **member milestones** and contributions.

Consider collaborating for a joint event or exhibit with:

- Libraries & museums
- Schools & colleges
- Historical societies
- Veterans' organizations
- Domestic violence or housing nonprofits
- Chambers of commerce or small-business groups

Partnerships help broaden your reach and often bring in new members! Remember to keep a record of your projects for Report Writing next year.

## HONORS, Cheryl Fairchild, fairchid@njsfwc.org

Looking for a way to honor someone special for their commitment to your club or community? Consider placing his or her name in the Honors Book at Headquarters. This can be a clubwoman or someone outside of the Club that has made a significant contribution to assist the Club. The recipient receives a beautiful card announcing the honor.

Also, consider becoming a Patron for the Women of Achievement Awards Program. Individual club women, interested guests, and all federated clubs are invited to become Patrons of these awards with a listing in the Awards Program Book. All proceeds will fund a one-time scholarship for a non-traditional student enrolled at Douglass Residential College.

All information and forms for awards can be found on the NJSFWC website under Materials – Honors, Awards and Achievements. The WOA form should be sent to NJSFWC Headquarters by March 15<sup>th</sup>

## LEGISLATIONS & RESOLUTIONS, Jacqueline Wisner, wisner@njsfwc.org

New Jersey has recently passed NJ S722, requiring health insurance plans—including Medicaid and public employee plans—to cover medically necessary care for perimenopause and menopause. Treatments would include procedures such as hormonal therapies, mental health care related to menopause, pelvic floor physical therapy, bone health screening and treatment and more. It would treat menopause as standard medical care, not elective care, recognizing menopause as a medical life stage, not an optional condition.

The bill now awaits the Governor's signature.

This bill aligns with the GFWC priorities on health, education, and family well-being. Women represent more than half of the state's population and the symptoms of menopause can include heart health risks, bone loss, mental health challenges, sleep disruption and cognitive changes. Too many women suffer the physical impact of this stage of life due to the lack of coverage or misinformation. And women in midlife are often caregivers, workers, and community leaders - their health, or lack thereof, affects entire families and communities.

The current coverage gaps force women to delay care, worsening long-term health outcomes. This bill helps all women from working women to caregivers to retirees and low-income women. And the ability to engage early treatment reduces costs related to osteoporosis, heart disease, and mental health crises.

Just as we galvanized support for the Menstrual Student Health law that passed in 2023, we can work together to improve the lives of thousands of women facing the economic challenges of managing their health through the cycle of menopause. If you believe this bill deserves to be signed, you are encouraged to send your letters

## LEGISLATIONS & RESOLUTIONS (Continued)

and make your calls to your local policymakers urging their public support and to the governor's office urging her to sign. Addresses and phone numbers can be found in the Legislative Action Center on the GFWC website.

## SPECIAL STATE PROJECT, April Shoemaker, shoemaker@njsfwc.org

- ◆ On Friday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, the NJ Children's Alliance and Prevent Child Abuse – New Jersey are partnering together for Child Abuse Prevention Month.

All NJSFWC members are welcome to join them as they walk to the State House. If you wish to participate, please meet at the Shiloh Baptist Church, 340 Calhoun Street, Trenton at **10:00 am** that morning. You can park there and join the walk.

Don't forget that all donations to the NJSFWC Special State Project should be made before the end of April to be included in the final total at Conventions.

- Donations made too close to the Convention may not be part of the final total, but will still go to the NJ Children's Alliance.
- Donations can also be added to the Continuing Funds Form.

Next month we will give you the totals for Operation Duffle Bag.

## PARLIAMENTARY CONSULTANT TO CLUBS, Roberta Dyrsten, dyrsten@njsfwc.org

### DID YOU KNOW? Parliamentary Pointers

#### Did you know...

Seconding a motion does not mean you agree with it? It simply means at least two members think the idea is worth discussing.

#### Did you know...

The chair may vote – but only when the vote would change the result? This protects the impartial position of the presiding officer.

#### Did you know...

Discussion must stop once the chair states the question and takes the vote? After that point, debate can't be reopened unless the assembly votes to do so.

#### Did you know...

Minutes are not a transcript? They record what the club decided—not who said what or how long the discussion lasted. Clear minutes protect the club and preserve its history.

#### Did you know...

Minutes are not approved to show agreement with decisions—only accuracy? Approval confirms that the record reflects what actually happened.

## PARLIAMENTARY CONSULTANT TO CLUBS

(Continued)

### Did you know...

A motion isn't officially before the group until the chair states it? Until then, it's just an idea. Once stated, the group discusses and decides together.

### Did you know...

A quorum must be present to conduct business, but not to hear reports or programs? Without a quorum motions or votes cannot be considered.

### Did you know...

You don't need to know all the rules to participate? Everyone learns as they go. If you raise your hand, share an idea, or say "I move," you're an active participant.

### Did you know...

Every member's voice matters? Fresh perspectives and long-standing experience are equally valuable.

### Did you know...

Parliamentary procedure exists to protect everyone's rights? It ensures fairness, order, and efficiency. Clear structure reduces confusion and misunderstandings

**WEBMASTER, Denise Hosier,**  
[webmaster@njsfwc.org](mailto:webmaster@njsfwc.org)

### Thanks for entering our website contest!

Judging is taking place the first two weeks of March. All the entries are fantastic, and it's a tough job choosing the ones deserving of awards at Convention. You should all be very proud of what you've accomplished in getting your club's message online!

### About mobile websites

According to Google, almost 64% of web users are now browsing on their phones or tablets (mostly phones), significantly surpassing the 36% using desktop browsers. Most of the modern website design platforms like WordPress, Wix, Weebly, and others, automatically create a mobile version of your website. It just takes a few minutes to look over the mobile site and tweak it. You can make changes to the mobile site that don't appear on the main, computer-oriented site. So take a look and update your mobile site.

### If you don't have a website or web page...

Why not email [webmaster@njsfwc.org](mailto:webmaster@njsfwc.org) for information on how to start a website? She would be happy to create a page with basic information for you, or even design a complete website. All you need to do is gather some information and pictures.

*... And may we strive to touch and to know  
the great common human heart of us all,  
and O, Lord God! Let us forget not to be kind.*

By Mary Stewart

