



NJSFWC Headquarters

## New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs of GFWC

Jan W. Hanson, President

*"Let Our Voices Soar"*

Dear Club Members,

As you have probably heard, we will be holding the 127<sup>th</sup> NJSFWC Annual Convention virtually. The odds of us being able to meet safely in April are very low so we need to start planning now for holding Convention differently. To say the least, this is disappointing, however, I am excited about the challenge to trailblaze a new (temporary) path. We have business to conduct and it is important that our members attend so your voices can be heard. Plus, this is an opportunity to participate an historic event.

We do not have all the details worked out, but here are some things we know:

- It will take place on Monday, April 26<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday April 27<sup>th</sup>
- The Call will go out
- There will be registration for Delegates and Alternates and Members
- The Convention Ad Journal is now the NJSFWC Tribute Journal
- We will vote on Resolutions and Bylaws
- There will be optional, informative workshops
- Awards will be presented
- In Memoriam will be held

Plans are underway for the following:

- District Reports
- Woman of Achievement Awards
- Honor Roll and Order of the Lily
- Cecilia Gaines Holland Awardees
- Wendy Carriker, GFWC 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President
- Workshops
- And more....

More information will be rolling out in upcoming ALMANACs, eConnections and emails. In order for discussion this will not be a webinar, but an interactive Zoom meeting so you can start planning on what to wear. You just won't have to pack a suitcase.

I am looking forward to seeing you in April.

In Federation Friendship,

Jan W. Hanson





# ALMANAC



February 2021

No. 428

## New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs of GFWC

55 Labor Center Way, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

### President's Message—Jan W. Hanson

I am happy to report that we successfully Zoomed through January. Our District Vice Presidents have become Masters of Zoom as they completed their third round of District Councils via the internet. Through First Vice President, Shirley Holly's guidance they have been able to connect with their Clubs, providing support and encouragement.

Denise Hosier, Webmaster, provided information on navigating the NJSFWC website. Please encourage your members to check out all it has to offer. If your Club needs a website, contact Denise for assistance. We cannot thank her enough for her efforts in keeping our award-winning site relevant.

If you are not participating in the Zoom Book Club discussions you are missing out on a great opportunity to share your love of reading with other members. The next discussion will be in March. If you need more information contact, Pat Trainor, ESO Chairman, [pattee217@aol.com](mailto:pattee217@aol.com).

Thanks to Barbara McCloskey for leading three Report Writing Zoom Workshops, giving tips and answering questions on reporting. Thanks to all the Clubs who sent in reports by the February 1<sup>st</sup> deadline. This year is like no other and I know the Chairman are looking forward to learning how your Club coped with the pandemic. By writing reports this year, you are recording for future generations the unusual circumstances with which your Club had to deal.

If you have not received the CALL for Convention, it should arrive shortly. The Convention and Credentials and Registration Committees are meeting to plan a great Convention. Whether we will be in-person or by Webinar is yet to be seen. Either way, we will need to vote on Bylaws and Resolutions along with other business.

February offers more opportunity to expand your knowledge. First Vice President, Shirley Holly is putting together a great Leadership Workshop open to all members. There is also an opportunity to attend a Communications Workshop to learn how to use online news agencies, among other things. Registration for both workshops can be found in the January ALMANAC.

Watch the February 11<sup>th</sup> GFWC News and Notes for an article on our Special State Project-Operation Chillout.

They say we can see light at the end of the tunnel or the vaccine at the end of the needle. In the meantime, please keep safe, social distance and continue to wear your mask, especially if it is an NJSFWC mask.

In Federation Friendship,

*Jan*

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#### Special points of interest:

- State Dates
- Legacy Form
- Yearbook updates
- 1894 Society



**NJSFWC FIRST VICE PRESIDENT****Shirley A. Holly**

This Officer meets with the District Vice Presidents after each state Board meeting to answer questions, review protocol, etc. These are **Frequently Asked Questions** of the District Vice Presidents.

**Question – What does NJSFWC of GFWC stand for and why do we pay them \$15 of our dues money?** This alphabet soup stands for New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs of GFWC (General Federation of Women's Clubs). The country has 50 states and each state has a Federation committed to doing community service within their state under the umbrella of GFWC. Information is distributed to local Clubs from the national and state level through a leadership chain. Here are **just some** of what your GFWC dues provide:

1. GFWC Club Manual which contains information and resources strengthening your Clubs' activities. This information is similar to NJSFWC's Supplements in each program area.
2. GFWC awards, contests and grants which provide recognition and or financial rewards to GFWC members, Clubs and state federations.
3. News and Notes is GFWC's weekly e-newsletter which provides timely information every Thursday to your email inbox. Some highlights include programs, member and club news and Marketplace sales. (Marketplace is GFWC's store for GFWC apparel, information booklets, etc.
4. GFWC provides member discounts including, but not limited to, 80% savings on printing at Office Depot/Office Max. (Go to GFWC.org/Membership for more discounts)
5. GFWC provides a Mediators Program offering specialized, confidential assistance with difficult issues related to club members and or club development.
6. GFWC provides a Top Projects list from the last year of awards entries to stimulate new ideas and activities in Clubs.
7. GFWC provides friendship and networking opportunities to members throughout the country.

GFWC has a Board of Directors, which includes the President from each state along with Chairman for each program area. In addition to GFWC's Annual Convention, these leaders attend several meetings annually providing training to assist them in meeting their leadership responsibilities to their program area. NJSFWC operates under the leadership of a Board of Directors also.

**Question – What does MAR stand for?** Continuing with the "alphabet soup" metaphor, MAR stands for Middle Atlantic Region. GFWC divides the country into regions. Several states makeup each region and New Jersey is a member of the Middle Atlantic Region. The other members of MAR are New York, Pennsylvania and Delaware.

**Question - What is the role of a District Vice President?** The District Vice Presidents are the liaison between Clubs and the state. Our state is divided into 8 districts – College, Garden, Highlands, Liberty, Palisades, Ramapo, Shore and Southern. The names were chosen because of the area of the state they are located.

Check back next month for more questions and answers and likely, more alphabet soup!

**NJSFWC SECOND VICE PRESIDENT****Barbara McCloskey**

Thank you to all the Clubs that submitted reports. Isn't it amazing when you compile all your activities, projects, donations and hours how much your Club has accomplished? You should feel good to know that you have recorded your Club's history and proud of your Club's achievements during the past year!

Now the work begins for the Program Chairmen. These Chairmen will read and reread your reports many times. Their first job is to choose the District winners who will receive certificates at Spring Conferences. Then they will select the State winners in each membership category who will receive certificates for Best All-Around Work at the annual Convention in Atlantic City.

As members of GFWC, we are asked to report what our Clubs have accomplished over the past year. That is one of the reasons we ask for narratives when you fill out your reports.

## NJSFWC SECOND VICE PRESIDENT (continued)

While they are reading, they will select 10 projects that have made an impact in communities from all the outstanding projects you have reported on. This is why writing a narrative is so important. They will also select the most Creative Project, which will be eligible to win \$50 from GFWC.

Club Presidents or the member's name listed at the top of the report writing form may receive a call from one of the Chairmen asking for further information. This is so they can give as much detail as possible to GFWC.

Much of the information that is gathered from all the reports is used to write the NJSFWC Supplements for the next administration. GFWC also creates lists of Best Projects by Department that are shared among all the Clubs, and is a great tool for you to find new projects.

## NJSFWC THIRD VICE PRESIDENT

**Susan Chambers**

Thank you to all the Clubs that sent in their Membership Year End Reports. While we know these reports take time to complete, doesn't it make you feel good to review and see in print all that your Club has accomplished despite a difficult year? Kudos to you all!

As this Officer writes to you, she is thinking of the many members who may still be unable to meet in person as we enter the dreary days of February. Please remember to reach out to those members who may be housebound for one reason or another and feeling lonely; involve them in whatever way you can – ask them to call other members just to say hello; maybe they can call local social service agencies (for the homeless, the hungry, the abused) and ask what is needed most and report back to you. Let these members know that they are important and valued parts of your community.

Take some time to reflect on your Club's needs. Do you have new members who need to be mentored? Do you need to refresh your committees, activities or recruiting procedures? And remember to take full advantage of the many Zoom programs offered by NJSFWC and GFWC; you're just a click away from learning something new!

### Let's give a hearty welcome to NJSFWC's newest members:

#### Woman's Club of Upper Montclair:

Kimberly G. Carlucci, DC, ICCSP  
Amy South  
Lela Salamat

#### Gloucester County Woman's Club:

Mary Schneider  
Donna Mahoney  
Elayne Clancy  
Cindy Small  
Robin Spatocco

#### Woman's Club of Spring Lake:

Susan Valentini  
Jeanne Stamler  
MaryAnn Imbriacco  
Joan Bundschuh  
Lois Cannon  
Kristen Piscatelli

*Please remember to send your new member's information to GFWC at [gfwc@gfwc.org](mailto:gfwc@gfwc.org) and copy Becky Wright at [beckywright1964@gmail.com](mailto:beckywright1964@gmail.com).*

**NJSFWC FINANCIAL SECRETARY****Christina Burlew**

Thank you to all the Clubs that submitted their Fundraising Reports. While these Reports require a lot of time and effort, remember that they provide a history of your Club. Saving a copy of your report will provide a place to share your accomplishments with your members and evaluate if any changes need to be made for the future. This Officer enjoyed reading all the Reports and the different ways in which your Club adapted or created a new fundraiser to comply with the restrictions imposed by Covid-19.

As mentioned in the November 24<sup>th</sup> eConnection, the NJ Games of Chance Control Commission advised us that virtual raffles are not allowed at this time. While there is much interest to allow virtual raffles in Trenton, nothing has been approved. If this should change, members will be notified. For on premise activities, a.k.a. basket raffles, tricky trays, the winner must be present to win. For off premise, they allow the ticket drawing to be live streamed as long as it's drawn in the town where licensed and drawn by a member.

Silent Auctions or Bidding Auctions are allowed. It would appear you could have an off-premise license as long as you did not sell tickets online and followed the off-premise rules. If you have any further questions contact Christine Donahue, [donahuec@dca.njoag.gov](mailto:donahuec@dca.njoag.gov).

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Gertrude Hawk Fundraiser. This Officer hopes you made yourself and others very happy with those delicious chocolates. NJSFWC will be holding another Gertrude Hawk Fundraiser for the spring. This fundraiser will be another opportunity to treat yourself or others. Look for details in the March ALMANAC, eConnection and Facebook.

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**COLLEGE DISTRICT****Mary Lou Bak**

District Clubs continued to honor Veterans during the busy Holiday season. Members of the **Suburban Woman's Club of South Plainfield** donated 180 Holiday cards that were delivered to the Menlo Park Veterans Home for distribution to residents. The **North Brunswick Woman's Club** assisted with the Wreaths Across America Chapter at Elmwood Cemetery in North Brunswick to lay wreaths on Veterans' graves. The **Woman's Literary Club of Bound Brook** donated 11 Afghans handmade by a Club member to a home for Veterans in Bound Brook. The **Princeton Area Junior Woman's Club** decorated a tree for the Holiday Tree Lane at MarketFair in Princeton. Their tree was among others representing community need. They highlighted the Special State Project, Operation Chillout, with red, white, and blue ornaments, garland, and a special star atop the tree noting Operation Chillout's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Visitors were encouraged to vote for their favorite tree, with the winning tree receiving \$500 for the charity it represented.

Community need continued to be met in other new ways during the Pandemic. The **Flemington Woman's Club** was able to help local Red Cross blood drives by opening their Clubhouse for blood donations monthly since September. The Drama and Literature Committee of the **Woman's Club of Cranbury** met to collect children's books for distribution through Better Beginnings Day Care and Skeets Pantry food bank.

Clubs found new ways to keep members engaged and connected during this time of Covid-19. The **North Brunswick Woman's Club** created a quilt with squares illustrated by members to enter in GFWC's Arts and Community Service Program Contest, with a theme of "What a Wonderful World." Each square of clip art, poetry, or prose told how they are keeping it a Wonderful World and staying upbeat both individually and as a Club.

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**GARDEN DISTRICT****Jill McDonald**

**KINDNESS WEEK** – Let's spread love and caring all over New Jersey during the week of February 8-14.

This wonderful idea emanated from the **Woman's Club of Wenonah** as a way to spread a little joy and thoughtfulness during the rather disrupted holiday time. Word went out to all Garden District Clubs and many Clubs gave it a try even with short notice. The process is very simple, costs little or nothing, and most ideas can be done safely with no face masks or social distancing. The act of kindness brings special joy to the person or group you reach out to...and it is FUN for you too.

**GARDEN DISTRICT (continued)**

- Call or send a card or note to someone you've been thinking about, but not reached out to in too long.
- Prepare cookies or some other treat for a community service worker or group, mailman, garbage collector, maintenance man, friend or relative's care giver, secretary, grocery store worker, a local volunteer or a shut-in neighbor or clubwoman.
- Let someone ahead of you in the grocery line.
- Make your family or a friend a special meal.
- Donate food to a pantry or animal shelter.
- Smile or even say hello to people passing you.

Most Clubs had a very busy holiday time as they found new, creative ways to handle wish trees and to help meet the needs of community groups particularly those serving the elderly, our veterans, and children. Zoom meetings/events don't bring many the personal satisfaction of group gatherings or in store shopping, but hopefully we are all safer because we've been extra cautious and done the right thing.

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**HIGHLANDS DISTRICT****Nancy Levy**

**Blair Woman's Club's** Bakeless Bake Sale, mentioned in December, continues to grow and has now brought in over \$2,000.

**Woman's Club of Boonton**, during this time of food insecurity, donated food to their "Loaves and Fishes" food pantry.

**Woman's Club of Denville-Rockaway Area** supported CASA-NJ with new hats and mittens, with one member knitting over 30 hats.

**Woman's Club of Hackettstown** partnered with Centenary University to collect items for Lyons and East Orange Veterans hospitals. They had a collection site at their library, and four additional District Clubs donated items.

**Hopatcong Woman's Club** held a linen shower for DASI, their local domestic violence shelter, and also collected mascara wands for an animal rescue shelter.

**Long Valley Woman's Club** started a "Cluster Program" to keep members connected. Many members were not comfortable using Zoom, so the Executive Committee now contacts all 47 members semi-monthly by phone with updates, and for one-on-one personal contact.

**Woman's Club of Parsippany-Troy Hills'** Adopt-a-Class project collected over \$1,300 in gift cards for Dover Head Start.

**Junior Woman's Club of Sparta** donated hats, gloves and scarves to Family Promise, and held a Sparta Garden Flag Sale.

**Sparta Woman's Club** collected over 50 blankets and comforters for Family Promise, and their knitting group made baby blankets and matching hat sets for St. Clare's hospital.

**Sussex Woman's Club** donated \$300 in gift cards to DASI, their local domestic violence shelter.

**Vernon Township Woman's Club** put together 80 packages of all-occasion cards with pens for Earth Angels to give to senior citizens, and their Club knitters made hats and blankets for Birth Haven.

**West Morris Junior Woman's Club** sent out a plea to parents in their area schools for monetary donations for Market Street Mission and Family Intervention which brought in over \$10,000.

**LIBERTY DISTRICT****Ellen Lund**

**Woman's Club of Allwood** will be sending Valentine goody bags to Grandma's Place, a shelter for homeless families.

**EMD of Arlington Woman's Club** will be collecting gently used bras for Free the Girls and sending cards to a local Senior Center.

In February, the members of the **Women's Club of Caldwell** will be writing inspirational messages on blank business cards for Operation Chillout. They will work with their local libraries and membership to collect "Blizzard Bags" for the Caldwell Food Pantry. "Blizzard Bags" contain an entire meal for a family of four of shelf-stable food items. Plans are underway to engage school children in a virtual Art Contest.

**Eighth District Contemporaries** delivered 51 baggies filled with two pairs of socks to a local Veteran's Home. They are saving used Christmas cards and everyday cards to donate to a Children's Hospital. Plans are underway to have either a phone or a Zoom meeting.

The COVID-19 Pandemic restrictions have sharply limited the activities of the **Women's Club of Livingston Township**. However, they are working with other organizations and have made donations to the Livingston Neighbors Helping Neighbors, Livingston First Aid Squad, and Livingston Fire Department. They anticipate an increase in activities including Zoom meetings in the new year.

The **Women's Club of Maplewood** are saving soda can tabs for the Ronald McDonald House in New Brunswick. Members will purchase a pair of adult or children's socks for Family Promise for distribution to families. This Club also provided the seed money which started the process of funding the Maplewood Library Project "A Library for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century".

The **Woman's Club of Upper Montclair** is hoping to have a remote Valentine luncheon. They also hope to make Valentine cards and gifts to be sent to the Veteran's Hospital in East Orange.

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**PALISADES DISTRICT****Debbie Cibelli**

As you can see in the Clubs in this District continue to forge ahead like George Washington crossing the Delaware during this Pandemic.

**Woman's Club of Leonia** received a request from one of the nursing homes they assist. They provided Bright Side Manor with shampoo/conditioners and candy canes!

**Woman's Club of Lyndhurst** had a very successful outdoor Flea Market/Craft Fair. The Club continues to collect shoes for Soles4Souls. Members and town residents have been very generous. The Club reached out to the Lyndhurst Knights of Columbus, who generously donated a carton of new children's coats for the domestic violence holiday collection. With so many people in need due to the Pandemic, the Club donated \$1,250 in gift cards for distribution to food pantry recipients.

**Woman's Club of Paramus** "Sewing Circle" has donated over 17,000 masks! They will be having a Valentine's Day craft fundraiser on February 11<sup>th</sup> to benefit the Special State Project by working in 2-3 sessions of 11 people.

**New Milford Woman's Club** donated 500 boxes of crayons to go with coloring books for their town wide event.

**Cresskill Woman's Club** had a presentation from their 2020 HOBY Candidate at their January General Meeting via Zoom. She had attended HOBY in the summer virtually.

**Woman's Club of Englewood** has rescheduled their annual Scholarship Reception from Thursday January 7, 2021 to Monday, February 8, 2021 at 6 p.m. This reception will be a virtual program via Zoom.

**PALISADES DISTRICT (continued)**

**Contemporary Club of Hasbrouck Heights** dressed the children of pantry recipients. It was fun to pick out outfits for each child in their size and favorite color. They included toys for each child and toiletries for the teens.

**Book and Needle Club** sponsored a Light up Oradell contest focusing on Holiday Decorations. There were 27 entries with 1st, 2nd, 3rd place prizes and lawn signs awarded. Prizes were donated by local businesses and all entrants were emailed certificates of participation and thanks.

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**RAMAPO DISTRICT****Marie Sullivan**

We are halfway through winter and the Clubs of Ramapo District certainly won't let the cold stop them from their volunteer work.

The **Contemporary Club of Ho-Ho-Kus** has really worked hard teaming up with the Chamber of Commerce to raise \$30,000 to help businesses and families in need of support to tackle the major disruption of COVID-19. They also have ongoing member-only, outdoor yoga classes, connected members for Peloton bike rides, book clubs and other Covid-19 appropriate small gatherings and delivered Meals on Wheels. They've delivered gift cards to welcome new babies in town instead of their usual Food Tidings & Homemade Meals. They also had a program speaker discussing Home Organizing. Finalizing plans are difficult these days but they continue to have virtual member's only events and a socially distanced snowball fight is in the works, fingers crossed!

**Pompton Lakes Woman's Club** continues to hold Zoom meetings but managed to donate 120 Blizzard Bags for Meals on Wheels. They sent Coloring Pages to Chilton Memorial Hospital to cheer patients and donated baby products to Lighthouse Pregnancy Resource Center. They continue their popular Zoom cooking classes for their members and share recipes with other Club members.

**Woman's Club of West Milford Township** continues to donate handmade scrub hats and headband ear-savers to the hospital staff. They are halfway to their goal of 500 lbs. of plastic bags for their free Trek Park Bench for their community.

**Woman's Club of Ramsey** is enjoying the Zoom format and has virtual events for their members to stay in touch.

**Suburban Woman's Club of Pompton Plains** doesn't miss a beat, whether it's outside or virtual they give to their community generously. In February their Health Life Department will be sending out reminders to their members for Heart Health Month encouraging everyone to wear Red on February 5<sup>th</sup>.

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**SHORE DISTRICT****Randi Quilici**

The Shore District continues to reach out to help others even during the coldest month of the year. We are thankful to have Zoom meetings instead of canceled ones.

The **Woman's Club of Asbury Park** is collecting food and paper products to donate to Fulfill Food Bank.

The **Woman's Club of Colts Neck** is organizing an assortment of cookies to deliver in cookie tins to Turning Lives Around and Freehold Open Door Food Bank. Their fundraisers are Spare Change and Gotsneakers.com.

**Jersey Shore Woman's Club** is donating much-needed diapers and other baby items to Madonna House.

**Woman's Club of Little Silver** is concentrating on new members, starting the New Year with four new members. Another goal is working on a club website. They also continue to collect canceled stamps and Christmas cards. They continue to advertise their club and promote posters for soliciting Gowns for the military women and wives at McGuire Air Force Base. Woman's Club of Spring Lake is excited to help and support Little Silver Woman's Club by collecting gowns and accessories for the military women of McGuire Air Force Base. They organized a drop off location for the Gowns.

**SHORE DISTRICT (continued)**

**Woman's Club of Lacey** is continuing its fundraising efforts for scholarship and community support. Conservation is conducting a Sneaker collection as a fundraiser, and the Calendar Club fundraiser is in full swing.

**Woman's Club of Middletown** is always thinking "outside the box" to determine new ways of helping their community. They have two new Co-Presidents who have assumed the helm with the help and guidance of past President, Barbara Mitchell.

**Stafford Township Woman's Club** is collecting pots, pans and kitchen utensils for those in need. They continue to sell their cookbook with members' favorite recipes.

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**SOUTHERN DISTRICT****Pamela McNamee**

The Clubs of the Southern District are making plans for activities even though we need to plan around the restrictions of COVID-19. With the virus continuing to climb in infections activities are becoming more difficult for us to get together and get out into the community.

However, Clubs continue to do what they can to help those in need and have group meetings while keeping the restrictions in mind.

**Colony Club of Ocean City** continues to support CASA-NJ in Cape May County with gifts and donations, since one of their board members is also on the CASA-NJ Board. The members are planning to support their local food pantry with food donations.

**Millville Woman's Club** will support the American Heart Association by purchasing the "Red Dress" pin and walk around the Cumberland Mall while donating money to help the work continue to find a cure for heart disease. (I have been told it is a mile to walk the mall.) Their planned luncheon will include a speaker from Triple Oaks Nursery. They hope to learn about plants and how to take care of them. Their book club will be reviewing the classic "Little Women" by Louisa May Alcott. The discussion is open to the public, too. Several members of this group became members of the Club. Their Club chorus continues to practice via Zoom. What dedication! There may be a CD in the works!

**Woman's Club of Vineland** will focus on Domestic Violence. They will be collecting women's toiletries for this activity. They are also planning their monthly Game Day which will feature baked ziti as the entrée for lunch. Hopefully the participants can gather in person to enjoy a delicious meal and fun times.

**Ex-President's Club of the Southern District** is waiting to hear if they will be able to enjoy their semiannual luncheon at the Tuckahoe Inn on February 24, 2021.

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**THE ARTS AND CULTURE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM****Lynn Webb**

Discover more projects that can be done in a distance and be ready for the next Achievement Day in 2021. Have you noticed #10 under UPCYCLE in the Arts and Culture Achievement Day Categories? UPCYCLE is the process of converting old or discarded materials into something useful and beautiful. Keep a list of materials you use to accompany each entry. Have you created designs with corks into a hot plate? You may use a small stand for your ornament and the maximum size is eight inches in any direction.

There is a "Junkovers" magazine that will give your ideas for your treasures found at a flea market or in your attic. There are more ideas found on Pinterest. What will you decide to do?

This Chairman found a few ideas in the magazine. One idea is to find an old metal wheel from a bike or a wagon. Clean the spokes and metal wheel with polyurethane to shine it up. Hang it on your wall and place pictures in between the spokes. This becomes a frame and it gives movement to your design.

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

Have you located old metal games like checkers? Use your imagination and make it into a lazy Susan and place it on your desk for odds and ends. Whatever you plan on doing, it is a great way to see what you dream up for future projects.

## THE ARTS/PERFORMING COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

Rosemarie Saviello

### VIRTUAL PERFORMANCES

At this time, many of us can't wait to go back to the theater. If you are one, why not try to see "virtual performances?" There are many to choose from if you go the website: [www.jerseyarts.com](http://www.jerseyarts.com) you will see a plethora of theater productions and films that are from New Jersey theaters. Here's a few more worth mentioning:

[www.papermill.org](http://www.papermill.org), The Papermill Playhouse

[www.njrep.org](http://www.njrep.org), New Jersey Repertory Theater.

[www.wpunj.org](http://www.wpunj.org), William Patterson University

[www.montclairfilm.org](http://www.montclairfilm.org), Montclair Film Festival, if you interested in films.

[www.tdf.org](http://www.tdf.org), Get your New York Theater fix here with both live and virtual performances. If you've been to the ticket booth in New York, this is their website.

### UNCOMMON INSTRUMENTS

"The Glass Harmonica" was invented by Benjamin Franklin. This instrument uses the same principal as playing drinking glasses, only turns it on its side. A series of glass bowls rotates while the player simply touches the bowls with wet fingers to create the desired notes. Because of its unique design, multiple notes can be played at once creating some hauntingly beautiful sounds. It was quite popular in its day, in fact, some of the great composers such as Mozart and Beethoven arranged pieces to include the glass harmonica, but sadly its popularity has dwindled over time.

### NOTE FROM THE ARTS PERFORMING CHAIRMAN

Thank you to all who completed and mailed their reports for Arts Performing. It was interesting reading them. Keep up the good work.

## CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

Gail Kovacs-Felici

Throughout the Revolutionary War (1775-1783) there were 296 engagements between the British and the Americans that occurred in New Jersey – more clashes than occurred in any other colony - earning the state the title of "Crossroads of the American Revolution". African Americans were present in all major battles in New Jersey – Trenton 1776, Princeton 1777, Fort Mercer 1777, Monmouth 1778 and Springfield 1780.

Lord Dunmore's Declaration of 1775 promised any slave their freedom on trade for their service in His Majesty's army. Titus Tye, later called Colonel Tye, escaped his master and became a raider for the New Jersey Loyalists around Monmouth. "Tye's Black Brigand" was very successful until being gunned down by Captain Joshua Huddy, who defended his house from being plundered.

George Washington's initial reluctance to enlist African-Americans changed after the 1775 Declaration and roughly 5,000 free and enslaved black soldiers served in the Continental Army or local militias. *The first person to die in the Boston Massacre (March 5, 1770) was a black seaman, Crispus Attucks.*

Samuel Sutphen of Branchburg, served as a substitute for his master, Casper Berger, because Berger promised to free him in return for this service. (Berger later reneged on this promise.) He served during the Battle of Princeton and he helped carry an injured officer home.

## CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM (continued)

Prince Whipple and Oliver Cromwell, born in 1752 as a free black from Burlington County, both served in a company attached to the Second New Jersey Regiment. Cromwell crossed the Delaware with General George Washington on December 24, 1776 and later saw action at Trenton, Princeton, Brandywine and Yorktown. His Honorable Discharge was signed on June 5, 1783 by George Washington.

Three New Jersey slaves, all confiscated property of Loyalists, were manumitted by acts of the NJ State Legislature: Peter Williams, of Woodbridge in 1784; Prime, of Somerset County in 1787 and Cato, also of Woodbridge in 1789.

Cyrus Bustell was born a slave in Burlington in 1732. He was freed by his third owner in 1769 and taught to be a baker. He moved to Philadelphia and is documented in baking bread for General Washington's troops at Valley Forge in 1777. He is also renowned as he is the great-great-grandfather of the singer and activist Paul Robeson. For information on where this data was obtained, please contact this Chairman.

## EDUCATION AND LIBRARIES COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

Brandi-Leigh Miller

### MARGARET YARDLEY FELLOWSHIP

The Margaret Yardley Fellowship was established in 1930 to provide fellowship grants to deserving women who are New Jersey residents pursuing post-graduate advanced studies at the school of their choice.

The first contribution to the fund in 1930 was \$5,000 given by Farnham Yardley in memory of his mother, the first NJSFWC President Margaret Yardley. NJSFWC has been able to award between six and eight \$1,000 fellowship grants to deserving women annually. Information (including application forms) regarding this fellowship fund is forwarded to all New Jersey universities, state colleges and independent four-year colleges plus graduate departments at Harvard University and New York University. Contributions to the Margaret Yardley Fellowship can be made on the Continuing Fund Form due April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Considerations used when judging applicant qualifications include:

- Scholastic achievement
- Career service potential
- Charitable endeavors

The Margaret Yardley Fellowship application forms are available on the NJSFWC website under Materials in the Education and Libraries section. Applications must be received by March 1<sup>st</sup>. For additional information, contact Brandi-Leigh Miller at [miller@njsfwc.org](mailto:miller@njsfwc.org).

### NJSFWC ESO BOOK DISCUSSION – MARCH 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021

On Wednesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., NJSFWC ESO Chairman Pat Trainor will host an online book discussion via Zoom. The third book in our discussion series will be *Wintering: The Power of Rest and Retreat in Difficult Times* by Katherine May. Discussions about new books will take place every other month.

To join the ESO Honorary Literary Society or to suggest a book for future NJSFWC book discussions, contact ESO Chairman Pat Trainor by email at [pattee217@aol.com](mailto:pattee217@aol.com).

**Reminder! You can now submit your ESO Book Report online: <https://tinyurl.com/ESONJSFWC>**

If you are on Facebook, be sure to search for **GFWC 2020 2022 ESO Book Club** and click the "join" button to be added to this private group. Don't miss out on the exciting and fresh ideas to energize your Club projects!

**ENVIRONMENT COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM****Dawn Pogosaew**

February is a fantastic time to prepare for your spring and summer garden. Now is the time to start sowing seeds to help jumpstart the growing season. Peapack Gladstone Woman's Environmental Chairman, Daina Gulbis, shared her, "Winter Sowing Method" with her Club and it was such a fun project, that I would like to share it with everyone.

Below is an easy "how to" guide to get you started. This Chairman grew basil seeds in a gallon jug milk carton, but started them indoors. By May, this Chairman had many plants which she planted outdoors in pots and in the ground. This Chairman harvested basil all late spring and summer. In the fall (before the first frost), harvest all the leaves, place in baggies and freeze (do not wash prior). By growing basil from seed, this Chairman was able to have fresh basil all year long!

**Definition:** A propagation method used throughout the winter where temperate climate seeds are sown into protective vented containers and placed outdoors to foster a naturally timed high percentage germination of climate tolerant seedlings. (USDA National Agricultural Library)

**Materials:** Containers, soil, seeds, scissors, tape, permanent marker, drill/awl/knife

**Procedure:**

1. Add vent and drain holes to clear or translucent containers. An awl, drill or soldering iron tip can be used to make the vent and drain holes.
2. If using a jug or bottle, remove the cap, cut the container with scissors about two thirds from the bottom, leaving an inch cut to hinge the top to the bottom.
3. Label the container with permanent marker. (This can be done on the bottom or on a plant marker placed inside the container.)
4. Add 3" of quality soil or sowing mix, moisten and drain.
5. Small seeds can be surface sown making good contact between seed and soil. Larger seeds can be pressed down just below the surface of the soil.
6. Attach the top of the container to the bottom of the container using duct tape or ties. Now you have a small greenhouse.
7. Place outside in a sunny area that gets precipitation.
8. Check to make sure containers stay moist. If there is no condensation, then tape over a few vent holes.
9. As seeds germinate in warmer weather and true leaves start to show, increase ventilation by opening up the containers during the day and closing at night.
10. Transplant the small hardy seedlings when garden soil is workable!

**What to sow:**

The best type of seeds to use are the seeds of cold hardy annuals, herbs, cold crop vegetables and perennials. Any seeds with the terms, self-sowing, cold stratification, sow outside in the fall or early spring will work well. Some Examples are: Annuals: alyssum, bidens aurea, calendula, celosia, cosmos, datura, dahlia, gaillardia, helianthus, lavatera, linaria, morning glory, mirabilis, nicotiana, petunia, portulaca, rudbeckia, snapdragon, and viola. Perennials: asclepias, bellis, digitalis, echinacea, flax, gaura, grasses, heuchera, helenium, liatris, malva, nepeta, Oenothera, poppy, salvia, torch lily, yarrow, Herbs: basil, chamomile, chives, cilantro, dill, hyssop, lavender, marjoram, mint, oregano, parsley, sage, thyme. Vegetables: beets, broccoli, brussel sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, carrots, celery, endive, hot peppers, kale, kohlrabi, lettuce, mustard, onions, radish, spinach, strawberries, tomatoes, turnip

**Resources:** <https://extension.psu.edu/successful-winter-seed-sowing>

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**HEALTH AND WELLNESS COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM****Claire Hill**

A quick reminder about Operation Smile. If you are making smile bags for Operation Smile, please do not fill the bags. Put them in a box with the contents and a list of items. There are volunteers at the facility that will fill the bags. If you need a pattern for the children's hospital gown, email Bonnie Keuhne at [bkeuhne@operationsmile.org](mailto:bkeuhne@operationsmile.org). She will send a full sized pattern. Please include your mailing address.

## HEALTH AND WELLNESS COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM (continued)

On the Operation Smile website there is a donations form that must be included in all packages sent to them. To save postage, Jill McDonald, District Vice President of the Garden District has volunteered to take your donations to Virginia Beach when she visits family near there. Please mark the package and leave it for her at Headquarters. She goes to Headquarters regularly and will pick it up. As of December 1<sup>st</sup> Operation Smile is operating in eight countries.

Think about those living in poverty. They need shoes. The nonprofit organization, Because International supports The Shoe That Grows program. Order online at [becauseinternational.org](http://becauseinternational.org).

For \$20 a pair of shoes will expand 5 sizes and last for years. This will help the wearer avoid disease from walking in soil that transmits jiggers and environmental factors that cause disease. These shoes are important in third world countries.

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## ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN

Jane Mackesy

Among other things, February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month. This is an issue that impacts everyone, not just teens, but their parents, teachers, friends and communities as well. Together, we can raise awareness about teen dating violence and promote safe, healthy relationships.

You can visit [www.Youth.gov](http://www.Youth.gov) for information on Teen Dating Violence, and ideas on how to address this issue in your communities. It includes a Tool Kit, lesson plan suggestions, and more. The website [www.loveisrespect.org](http://www.loveisrespect.org) also offers activities.

As with everything else, doing this is more difficult in the time of a pandemic. Many of you are very creative and can adapt these ideas for current use. Posting information on your social media pages can help spread the word. If you have a Juniors Club, or are connected to any other Youth Groups, ask the advisor to discuss Teen Dating Violence, as well as the characteristics of a healthy teen relationship at a meeting.

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## COMMUNICATIONS

Carole Speechley

This Chairman loves that her mail box fills up with Federation mail more than bills and sales brochures. And in January her mail box was filled with Reports. You may not like filling them out, but this Chairman does enjoy reading them and appreciates the project ideas and creativity of our Clubs. So, thank you for taking the time to report on your activities in Communications and for all you do to promote your Club and keep your members engaged.

Thank you to all Clubs who entered one or more of our Communications contests. This Chairman looks forward to seeing your entries.

### Communications Workshop

The Communications Workshop is on Thursday, February 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. You have a choice of attending at Headquarters or on Zoom, COVID-19 regulations and weather permitting, otherwise just on Zoom. We'll cover some new ways Clubs are using to communicate with their members and their community. The **registration form was in the January ALMANAC**. The **deadline to register is extended to February 22<sup>nd</sup>**, but if you have a suggestion for what you would like to have covered, the deadline is still February 6<sup>th</sup>. This Chairman hopes to see you at this workshop.

### Press Releases

Sample press releases are on the [njsfwc.org](http://njsfwc.org) website and distributed by the District Communications Chairmen for use by the Clubs to promote their activities and increase their membership, and make people aware of NJSFWC. Modify one that is timely or pertinent to include what your Club is doing, that you welcome new members, and how they can contact you. This Chairman would be happy to help you. So, check out the press releases in the Communications section under Materials on [njsfwc.org](http://njsfwc.org).

**COMMUNITY IMPACT PROGRAM****Ora Kokol**

Listen! Do you hear the clock ticking telling you it is 2021? The time is fast approaching for your Club to be thinking about a project you are doing or considering as your entry in the Community Impact Program contest. The deadline for submitting entries to this Chairman is February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

Remember the entries must have an Impact by making improvements in your community be it large or small. Check your State Yearbook, or the website for the rules and guidelines for entering the Community Impact Program contest.

With so many restrictions due to COVID-19 has your Club come up with something unique that is helping your community? Did you Club hold a drive-by pick up for food for your local food pantry? How about a Zoom story book hour – reading to the little people? This is a wonderful idea with so many of our libraries closed; what a great service to your community.

Think outside the Box and see what project you can do to improve your community!

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**CONVENTION****Susan Fosdick**

The Count Down has begun. Goodbye 2020 - Welcome 2021 - so let's begin our journey "Back To The Future"!

"Future Happenings" You will receive all the room and meal information in your CALL to Convention which will be mailed in early February. Please be sure to adhere to all the deadlines.

Due to its popularity, the "District Luncheon" is returning on Monday, April 26<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m. So dust off those colored tees or tops that signify your District color, and plan on attending. If you need to order a shirt, information is in the January ALMANAC.

Following the luncheon, you need to join us at the Opening Business Session which begins at 1:30 p.m. The afternoon session will include reports from our Officers, followed by the Presentation of the Proposed Bylaws, next the "Best Reported Work" awards given by the Standing Committee Chairmen.

Join us at the Monday evening banquet as we "lift off" to feature those outstanding 2020 and 2021 Women of Achievement Recipients – and the introduction of the three State EX Clubs' Presidents.

Tuesday morning Business Session will begin at 9:00 a.m. The morning session will include "The Best Reported Work" Awards given by the Community Service Program Chairmen, and the presentation of the Resolutions.

At the conclusion of this session, pick-up your box lunches (that you pre-ordered) then it is off to attend one of the three workshops that are being offered – History of the Palisades – The Marine Mammal Stranding Center or the Picture Art Craft Workshop. Please follow the directions to pre-register for these workshops.

Next stop is to see those "Performing Stars" at the District Arts/Performing presentation. And then-- time to catch your breath before the banquet!

The BIG EVENT – This evening will be packed full of all kinds of Galaxy Stars! Honor the Club Presidents as they process, led by their District Vice-President. Our GFWC Second Vice President, Wendy Carriker, will be our Key-Note speaker. Last but not least we will honor last year's Cecilia Gaines Holland Recipient and who do you think this year's Recipient will be? You will have to wait and see who receives this prestigious award.

Bright and early Wednesday morning plan on attending one of our three very diverse workshops between 8:00 a.m.–9:15 a.m. Then it is off to the Closing Session at 9:45 a.m. for the very moving "In Memoriam" Ceremony and presentation of Honor Roll and Order of the Lily ceremonies.

So please mark your calendars and join us at Bally's Casino Hotel in Atlantic City—April 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup>

**CREDENTIALS AND REGISTRATION****Cynthia A. Blumenkrantz****REGISTERING FOR THE 127<sup>TH</sup> NJSFWC CONVENTION – April 26<sup>th</sup>—28<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

On Saturday, **January 23<sup>rd</sup>** (snow date, **January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021**), the CALL TO THE 127<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION was prepared and mailed to the President of each General Club, State Organization, Affiliate Club, Member-At-Large, State Board Member and Past State President by the Credentials and Registration Committee. Each envelope will include a copy of the "Official CALL". The envelope will include the following:

- Advance Registration Form listing all registration fees and meal costs
- Hotel Reservation Information Sheet and directions to the hotel
- Checklist to aid the presidents in completing the proper club registrations
- Other necessary information.

Reminder to **Club Presidents**: Please check immediately the contents of the envelope containing the CALL to be sure you have all the necessary forms. If you have any questions concerning the contents, contact either this Chairman or NJSFWC Headquarters. *Do not wait until Convention in April.* Any errors or omissions must be resolved before the deadline for Registration and Meal Reservations by **March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021**.

**Delegates and Alternates**: The number of Convention Delegates and Alternates to which your Club is entitled is designated in the NJSFWC BYLAWS – ARTICLE XI, SECTION 11.2D and is stated on the **Voting Registration Sheet**. When completing this form, be sure to list the names of both Delegates and Alternates. No on-site registration for Delegates and Alternates will be available at Convention. Should it be necessary for an Alternate to serve as a Delegate, this change can only be made by the Credentials and Registration Chairman at the Convention Registration Desk.

If you have an EMD, it is the Club's responsibility to provide the Department an opportunity to be included in your voting delegation since the EMD membership is included in the total membership of its sponsoring Club. Representation is based on membership as recorded in the State Yearbook. If a member of your EMD is representing your Club as a Delegate or Alternate, her name **MUST** appear on the Voting Registration Sheet and her Delegate/Alternate fee **MUST** be included with your Advance Registration Sheet.

**IMPORTANT**: The President and Recording Secretary of the Club must sign the Voting and Registration Sheet.

No Delegate or Alternate shall be registered to represent more than one Club or State Organization. Therefore, if a member of your Club serves on the State Board of Directors, she is considered a Delegate from the Board of Directors and may not represent your Club. She will handle her own registration through the State Board.

If one of your members is registered as a Delegate or Alternate from another Club, such as Past Presidents Club, she cannot represent your Club. However, if she wishes to sit with her General Club for meals, her registration fee should be recorded and paid under the Past President's Club, but her meals should be recorded and paid under her General Club. In these circumstances, a note should be attached to the Club's Advance Registration Sheet to alert the Chairman.

**Registration:**

The registration fee for Delegates, Alternates, Members, Visitors, and Non-Members is \$25 if postmarked by March 22, 2021. Registrations **POSTMARKED AFTER MARCH 23<sup>rd</sup>** and no later than March 29<sup>th</sup> will be \$35 each (\$25 and \$10 late fee). The Daily Registration Fee is \$15 (\$20 if postmarked after March 23<sup>rd</sup> and no later than March 29<sup>th</sup>) is available for members or visitors who can only attend for one day.

All Registration Fees and Meal Reservations should be paid with one Club check payable to **NJSFWC** earmarked **Credentials and Registration**. This form should be completed with all fees for registration and cost of meals. Remember to include the District, Name of Club, and name and telephone number of respondent. The Advance Registration Form should be returned to the Credentials and Registration Chairman with a copy retained for your Club records. If any changes to the banquet meals are necessary due to health or dietary restrictions, a note detailing the necessary changes should be attached to the Advance Registration Form. No meal changes will be accepted at Convention, any changes must be made no later than March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021.

**Absolutely no reservations will be accepted after March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021.**

Early Registrations are encouraged. Please read all instructions carefully and comply with the deadlines. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact this Chairman at 310-691-9388.

**GFWC SIGNATURE PROJECT:  
DOMESTIC & SEXUAL VIOLENCE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION**

**Joyce Fredericks**

On this Chairman's Supplement one of the resources listed is "I Support the Girls." Here is some additional information about this organization.

Their mission statement is 'through an international network of Affiliates, I Support the Girls collects and distributes essential items, including bras, underwear, and menstrual hygiene products, allowing women and girls experiencing homelessness, impoverishment, or distress to stand tall with dignity.

A woman shouldn't have to choose between feeding herself and her personal health. Every woman should have the ability to maintain her dignity."

Around the globe they are helping girls and women experiencing homelessness, victims of domestic violence, victims of sex trafficking, refugees and evacuees affected by natural disasters."

Here is the contact information for I Support the Girls:

Attn: Dana Marlowe  
P.O. Box 2736  
Wheaton, Maryland 20915  
You can call at: (240) 816-0570

The organization has affiliates in Pennington and Springfield, New Jersey and these affiliates serve as "collection points" where Clubs can bring items that they collect.

This year at the January District Councils, Clubs have been asked to collect the following items:  
Maxi Pads or other brands of personal care products  
New or slightly used Sports Bras in all sizes

This Chairman suggests that your Club hold a lingerie party on behalf of the girls. Admission into the party is for them to bring one or more of the above items. Someone will need to volunteer to take the items to either the Pennington, NJ or the Springfield, NJ Affiliates. You can also ship the items if you are worried about COVID-19.

For more information go to the website [isupportthegirls.org](http://isupportthegirls.org).

Did you know that Bambas Socks will send a pair of socks to the Homeless Shelters for EACH PAIR you purchase? Go on line to [Bambas.com](http://Bambas.com) for more information. Socks are always a good thing to collect for the shelters.

**HEADQUARTERS**

**Karen Manneback**

**1894 Society  
April 1, 2020 to March 2021**

Did you know that the 1894 Society year runs from April 1st to March 31st? Who knew! So if you haven't done so already and desire to become a member, fill out the 1894 Society form and mail it in with your check. There is no amount that is too small or too big. The form is included in this ALMANAC or it can be found online at [njsfwc.org](http://njsfwc.org). Next month there will be a listing of members and Clubs whose donations have been received by January 1, 2021. Let's try to make this a great year even with the obstacles we have encountered. Stay safe and healthy.

**Thank You to everyone who has already contributed!**

**Headquarters**

**For Your Information!**

Headquarters is open on a limited basis. This is a great time to remind members of a few general housekeeping rules when using Headquarters. After all, Headquarters is our Federation home:

## HEADQUARTERS (continued)

1. If you take something out of the closet or drawer, wash, dry and put it away. Do not leave it in the dishwasher or on the counter.
2. If you use the coffee pots, they must be cleaned and put in their proper place, not left out to dry.
3. If you spill something, such as on the floor, cabinets or counters, clean it up.
4. If you use the microwave or oven, wipe it out when you are done.
5. Wipe out or rinse the sink before you leave.
6. Before leaving stuff in the refrigerator, check to make sure someone will be using it.
7. There is no garbage pick-up so please remember to take your garbage with you.
8. For future use, if your Club is going to use Headquarters you must fill out a Headquarters Request Form and send it to Headquarters for approval. This is to make sure there isn't a conflict. The form can be found on the website under Material/Forms/Headquarters/Request for use of Headquarters Building and in the ALMANAC.

Let's continue to keep Headquarters in its pristine state. Thank you for being so understanding.

## HISTORIAN

**Maribeth Hugelmeyer**

Thank you to all the Clubs that sent in your 2020 Women's History Report! This Chairman enjoyed seeing what your Clubs have done to promote Women's History and reading all the wonderful narratives. Keep up the good work and keep exploring notable Women in History.

To honor February as Black History Month our Suffragist of the Month is Sojourner Truth.

She was born Isabella Baumfree in 1797, near Rifton in Ulster County, NY to James and Elizabeth Baumfree, slaves of Colonel Hardenbergh. When the estate owner died, Truth was 9 years old and was sold at auction along with a flock of sheep for \$100. She was bought and sold a total of four times. She suffered violent punishments and subjected to strenuous physical labor.

She met and fell in love with a slave from a neighboring farm, but their relationship was forbidden. She later met another man and married. She had five children. In 1827, which was a year prior to the New York law taking effect that would free slaves, she ran away with her youngest daughter to an abolitionist family who bought her freedom and helped her sue for the return of her five year old son.

In 1928, she moved to New York City and worked for a minister. It was here that she became a charismatic speaker and in 1843, she renamed herself Sojourner Truth because she said that the Spirit wanted her to teach the truth. She became a noted speaker and delivered her famous "Ain't I a Woman?" speech in 1851 during a women's rights conference in Akron, Ohio.

She spoke at the Second Annual Convention of the American Woman Suffrage Association, held in Boston in 1871. Her speech focused on that women's rights were not only essential for the individual but for the whole of creation. Truth was an author, preacher, abolitionist, and human rights activist. She spent her last years, deaf and nearly blind. She died on November 26, 1883 at the age of 86, in Battle Creek, Michigan

## LEGISLATION/RESOLUTIONS

**Chris Sienkielewski**

On a good news/bad news note – members passed the Resolution referred to as Tara's Law in 2010 and reaffirmed it in 2016. The Resolution and Legislation was in response to the 2008 death of 29-year-old Tara O'Leary, who suffered neglect and starvation while she was under the care of a licensed community care residence in Bloomsbury.

Although it was signed by Governor Christie in 2012, a report filed by the Human Services office of Program Integrity and Accountability on March 10, 2016, found that there are still major issues dealing with licenses and the refusal of residences to submit information about their employee's infractions of the law. The agency is requesting a routine unannounced visit to the centers with fines for those centers who are not compliant with the law.

Although Tara's Law is in effect, another law, the Stephen Komninos Law, named for a 22 year-old man who choked to death at a group home in 2007, when left unsupervised against medical orders, was put into effect on May 1, 2018 due to continued loopholes in Tara's Law. Komninos Law requires that every person who is employed by any Department of Human Services funded, licensed or regulated program serving adults with developmental disabilities is subject to all requirements that will prevent abuse, neglect, and exploitation of people with disabilities and establishes

## LEGISLATION/RESOLUTIONS (continued)

serious criminal penalties and mandated drug testing for every staff member. It also requires that there be two unannounced visits every year from the Department of Human Services, Office of Program Integrity and Accountability. There is also an added component that requires guardians of individuals living in these centers be notified in-person or by telephone, within two hours, of all minor, moderate or major injuries. Guardians are also allowed to call the Department of Human Services about any infractions to the law.

Both of these laws, Tara's Law cover the requirements of our Resolution. This is good news, but it also means that our members should follow-through by educating our members and the public of these laws. The winter season is an excellent time to write letters to the editors of your local newspapers announcing that these laws are now in effect.

## SPECIAL STATE PROJECT

Patricia Dahl

This Chairman has received your Clubs' Reports and she is overwhelmed with all that was accomplished in such a short time and with the situation we are all experiencing. Thank you! This information will help this Chairman to compile her report for GFWC.

Don't forget to purchase our Special State Project Pin. Check with your District Vice President who keeps a supply of Special State Project Pins!

**Are you learning to play Bunco for our District Fundraisers?** This Chairman hopes so!  
More information to come!!!

## WEBMASTER

Denise Hosier

### Time to Enter our Website Contest!

Submit your intention of entering the competition by emailing the NJSFWC Webmaster, [webmaster@njsfwc.org](mailto:webmaster@njsfwc.org), **during the month of February (1<sup>st</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup>)**. Websites will be reviewed between March 1<sup>st</sup> and March 15<sup>th</sup>.

- In the 'Subject line' of the email, reference 'NJSFWC Club Website Competition.'
- In the body of the email, include your Club name, contact person and the 'link' to the website.

#### Rules for Submission & Judging:

1. Club name and NJSFWC of GFWC must appear on home page.
2. District, Club President, and contact information must appear in a clearly defined site menu choice. (e.g.: About Us or Contact Us).
3. Website may continue to be updated after the competition deadline date.

#### Judging: Websites are judged based on the following five criteria:

1. Rules above are met (Club name, NJSFWC of GFWC, District, Club President and contact information).
2. Presentation/design.
3. Ease in navigating through the site/page.
4. Federation information.
5. Useful and pertinent information for club members & prospective members.

Judges will use their own discretion as to awards given.

- Each item is judged on its own merit.
- Scoring will not be provided.
- Comments will be provided to the Club by the judges upon request.

**Awards:** This is a statewide competition with certificates presented at Convention for First, Second, and Third Place. Certificates will not be issued at the District level.

**DEADLINE: February 28<sup>th</sup>. NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who attended the website workshop in January! We had an informative evening. If anyone is having trouble with the website, please feel free to email [webmaster@njsfwc.org](mailto:webmaster@njsfwc.org).