



College District – NJSFWC of GFWC, P.O. Box 5793, Somerset, NJ 08875
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January 4, 2022 Newsletter



FWC Calendar

Jan 4 – FWC Book Club via Zoom @7pm
Jan 11 – FWC General Meeting via Zoom @630pm
Jan 22 - College District January Council via Zoom @10am
Feb 26 – Leadership Workshop, NJSFWC headquarters, 10am-12pm

A Message from the FWC President, Phyllis Beals, awpbeals@comcast.net, (732) 331-3416 (cell)

Happy new year!

Due to the increase in Covid-19 transmission and the more infectious nature of this new variant, the January 11th members' meeting will take place via zoom. Stephanie Carr will be running the meeting. A link will be emailed out to all members. A couple of our members phone in to hear the meeting using the audio link. We will evaluate the situation for our February meeting, taking it one month at a time as long as the Board of Education allows us to meet in the FHS cafeteria. VP for Programs Amy Manifase has lined up a very important and informative program on how we can prevent consumer fraud.

Upcoming Leadership Workshop offered by NJSFWC President-Elect Shirley Holly

Each of us has the capacity to develop leadership skills, and to lead. A couple members have expressed interest in learning more about leadership, which is so encouraging to hear. There will be a LEADERSHIP workshop on Saturday Feb 26 at the NJSFWC headquarters from 10 -12 pm. Please RSVP to holly@njsfwc.org. The agenda will cover LEADERSHIP, MENTORING, DEVELOPMENT, NETWORKING, RESPONSIBILITIES, ORGANIZATION AND COMMUNICATION.

Federation News from College District VP, Mary Lou Bak, marylb656@cs.com

The College District January Council on January 22nd at 10 AM, will be on Zoom due to concerns about the surge in Covid cases. I hope many of you will be able to attend. The Zoom link will be available about a week before the Council. Our speakers will be NJSFWC Convention Chair, Susan Fosdick, with details about the NJSFWC Convention in April. Also, Rosemarie Saviello, NJSFWC Arts Performing Chair, will remind us about Arts Performing returning this year, hopefully. The College District Arts Performing Day is scheduled for March 24th, and Rosemarie will offer ideas about the range of possible entries that members can consider.

Day of Service totals for the benefit of Covenant House have been announced. Statewide, 1003 gift cards totaling \$10,390 were donated, and 1085 handmade greeting cards were collected. Thank you for your participation in this worthwhile project! I'm sure Covenant House is surprised and appreciative of this overwhelming support of their projects.

A very healthy, happier, and safe 2022 to you!

Programs – Amy Manifeste, 1st VP, Programs, shantimanifest@gmail.com

JANUARY 11 - NJ Division of Consumer Affairs presents their program on **Consumer Fraud Education and Prevention**. Melanie Hazim, NJ Consumer Affairs Outreach Director, will provide information that relates to current consumer fraud scams and how to stay alert and safe during these trying times. You will learn about IRS scams, phone scams, lottery scams, grandparent scams, email scams, telemarketing scams, identity theft, phishing and more.

This meeting will be via Zoom, so please be sure to join us.

Membership – Stephanie Carr, Chair, stephpto@comcast.net, (cell) 732-668-5430 (Assistant: Mary Ann Renzulli)

Please welcome our newest members; Joyce Lee and Celia Hills.

Our club now has 62 members!

You can write in the below information for Joyce and Celia in the back of your yearbooks, page 27 New Members.

Joyce Lee

36 Timberhill Dr
Franklin Park NJ, 08823
cell: 201-306-9394
candidLee@aol.com
Birthday: 11/23

Celia Hills

6301 Westover Way
Somerset NJ. 08873
cell: 805-300-3253
1953chills@gmail.com
Birthday: 9/17

Although 2020 was a challenging year in many ways, we did gain 8 new members!

Guests: If you have a guest interested in attending our November meeting, please let Stephanie know so she can contact them. We are open for new members, and guests are always welcomed.

+ Did You Know? If you recruit/refer 5 new members or more in a given year, GFWC offers a Star Pin Recruitment Award.

Arts and Culture - Geri Krassowski, Chair, gerik2@gmail.com

December saw members take trips to two Princeton, NJ historic sites – former Governor’s mansion Morven, to view the Festival of Trees, and current Governor’s mansion Drumthwacket, to view the holiday decorations. Both were fun and informative.



Arts Performing – Delores Still, Chair, gvxm33a@prodigy.net

Education & Libraries – Cheray Wright, Chair, cright_1993@comcast.net, 732-208-9576

Our gently used or new book drive is under way. Books will be distributed to three township schools to supplement students' home books' supplies in anticipation of Read Across America Day in March.

If you have any books to donate, please deliver them to Sharon Seiwert's home at 21 Hill Avenue, Somerset. We are looking for one or two more members to be book drop off locations and to help deliver the books to the schools. All that's required is a large plastic tote bin put beside your door, labeled "FWC book donations". You don't have to be home to receive the books. Sharon or Phyllis will work with you about where to deliver them. Please email Phyllis at awpbeals@comcast.net if you can help. Thank you!

Environment – Nancy Gale, Co-Chair, NanclG@aol.com; Geri Krassowski, Co-Chair, gerik2@gmail.com

Some tips from the GFWC Environment Winter Newsletter:

- **The most eco-friendly way to melt ice and snow in the winter:**

Shovel snow shortly after it falls, and do not allow it to accumulate or compact. You will also benefit from the exercise this provides. We all want safe walks and driveways. Salt is damaging to the environment and pets. When the ice and snow melt, the salt finds its way into our waterways affecting the plants and animals in our fresh water. No ice melting product is truly natural and earth friendly. Consider using small amounts of sand, coffee grounds or sawdust, instead of deicer. Apply deicer sparingly if used and sweep up remnants after the ice melts.

- **Holiday Recycling:**

- Much cardboard and packing products are used when ordering items online. Make sure you recycle as much as possible, cardboard, paper packing, and air-filled plastic.
- Bubble wrap and Styrofoam, and Styrofoam peanuts, may be able to be recycled in certain locations. Reuse, these items, or put into the trash. Please contact your local recycle company and ask if there is a Styrofoam recycle deposit site near you.
- Recycle correctly, rinse out food cans and bottles, dishwashing isn't necessary

- **Plant or compost your live Christmas tree.** The Somerset County Park Commission is hosting a free, live Christmas tree recycling program until the end of January 2022. Mulch and chips produced from the recycled trees are used throughout the parks to protect and nurture plant life. Mulch will be available at drop-off sites on a first-come, first-served basis for residents who are recycling their trees. Trees can be dropped off seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., until Jan. 31, 2022, at Colonial Park Gardens located on 156 Mettlers Road, Parking Lot F, Franklin Township

Christmas Tree Recycling Guidelines:

Only one tree per family will be accepted

Trees must be free of ornaments, wires, netting, and tinsel

Wreaths and garlands will NOT be accepted



- **Holiday Lights:**

Recycle broken or unwanted lights- most big box stores selling lights also recycle. Many communities set up recycling at their local recycle center, city office or grocery stores. If no local deposit is available, you can ship your holiday lights to several Recycling Programs. Two are listed below:

Christmas Lights Source
Recycling Program
4313 Elmwood Drive
Benbrook, TX 76116

Holiday LEDS Recycling
W227N6225 Sussex Road, Door #12
Sussex, WI 53089

• Did you know January 10th is **National Houseplant Appreciation Day**? If you have the post-holiday blues, this is the perfect chance for you to brighten up your house with a lovely plant that you can enjoy all year long. But houseplants do more than just bring a splash of green into our homes, and National Houseplant Appreciation Day is all about raising awareness of the numerous benefits of tending an indoor plant. Houseplants convert carbon



dioxide into oxygen for us to breathe, improving the air quality in your home. Plants also release moisture into the air, conditioning it with refreshing humidity that can actually make your house feel cooler! What's more, many houseplants are easy to care for and have an array of household uses that help you save money. Many edible plants can be grown indoors, from small herbs in window boxes to proud citrus trees in mighty pots. Aside from the obvious benefits of growing your own food, it just feels good to be able to utilize the plants you've been tending in your home. There are some non-edible houseplants with uses too, such as the aloe vera plant, whose thick pointy leaves can be snapped open and squeezed onto minor burns, scrapes, and even sunburned skin. It also can be used as a natural eye makeup remover, shaving cream, and even as a cure for bad breath.



Health and Wellness - Valerie Buckner, Chair, vabuckner@comcast.net, 732-859-4327 (cell)

Operation Smile - For new members, in case you don't know, Operation Smile is an organization that provides free cleft lip and cleft palate surgery for children whose families cannot afford it. We have been supporting them by making Smile Bags, which are given to the recuperating children. Currently, however, surgeries have been halted because of the pandemic, and they have asked us not to send Smile Bags. Instead, we have started donating small toys and craft items for their Child Life Therapy Centers, where children receive various types of therapy after surgery. If you would like to donate, please give to me at the General Meeting, if we resume meeting at the High School in February. Otherwise, I will provide a container outside my front door where you can drop off items.

Items needed are: Matchbox or Hotwheels cars, baby dolls, Barbie-style dolls, soft foam/rubber balls, "Little People" figures, pull-along toys, jewelry/craft kit, liquid bubbles, construction paper, crayons, markers, sidewalk chalk, stickers

Shot@Life - Thank you for donating \$37 at the General Meeting in December. Every \$25 that we donate will help provide immunizations for life to protect a child from diseases like polio, measles, pneumonia and rotavirus. We are helping in the fight to ensure that all children have a shot at a healthy life, no matter where they live.

Reminder: Please schedule a mammogram sometime during 2022!

Legislation and Resolutions—Sue Carroll, Chair, scarroll@rutgers.edu, 732-690-0916

Below is a link to a letter from the Franklin Township Water Division about our water quality. This letter was supposed to be distributed to all Franklin Township residents in December. However, many of my neighbors have not yet received it.

[Messages | Township of Franklin, NJ \(franklintwpnj.org\)](https://www.franklintwpnj.org)

Because the letter is lengthy, I am providing only the first few lines in hopes of piquing your interest so that you will read the full letter:

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Franklin Township Water Division Failed to Meet Water Quality Parameter (WQP) Levels

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we did (are doing) to correct this situation.

Our system has installed corrosion control treatment to help prevent lead and/or copper in the pipes from dissolving into the water. During the January 1, 2021 through June 30, 2021, we failed to consistently meet treatment technique requirements for our corrosion control system. WQP results did not meet the optimal WQP control values set by the State in the 6-month monitoring period.

The Water Department claims this is not an emergency which is why they did not inform us immediately (but rather took six months) and that they are taking remedial steps. If after reading the letter you are nevertheless concerned,

as I am, you might want to consider running your tap water through a filtering system that removes lead and copper before consuming. Not all water filters (e.g., Brita) do so. After researching various filtration options, I myself purchased a ZeroWater pitcher and filter which removes both.

Book Club – Maria Hudak, Chair, mhudak0414@yahoo.com



Our December book was “Bel Canto” by Ann Patchett. An unnamed South American country hosts a birthday party for Mr. Hosokawa in the hope he will be persuaded to build his next factory there. To impress him, the party is held at the lavish home of the Vice President and they get his favorite opera soprano, the world famous Roxane Cox, to sing. The guest list includes businessmen and dignitaries from many countries. But the party goes terribly wrong when a group of terrorists sneak in to kidnap the President who was not there. He had declined so he could watch his favorite soap opera. Without the President, the terrorists decide to hold the entire party hostage. For the next few months, we learn how the relationships of the captors and the hostages evolve. How they forge friendships and some even find love.

If anyone is interested in forming a second Book Club, please contact Maria Hudak. She’ll explain how our evening book club is structured and help connect another group. A good size is 8 – 10 members but less than 8 works well too.

Community Services - Lisa Andreini, Chair, lisa-andreini@comcast.net, 732-692-3309.



Fundraising – Chair needed

Shop Rite Gift Cards – Stephanie Carr, stephpto@comcast.net (732 668-5430)

The Club offers Shop Rite gift cards for personal use or gift-giving. Gift cards in several amounts (\$100, \$50, \$25) are available for purchase. You can purchase them with cash or a check payable to “Franklin Woman's Club”. The club earns 5% on your purchase, so if you shop there regularly, consider buying the gift cards to use for your regular shopping.

You can contact Stephanie to purchase cards, and yes, we can arrange to get them to you. Cards are always available at all club meetings and events.

Special State Project – Bonnie Martin, queenbonne@yahoo.com 732-476-8863 (cell)

Sunshine – Kathy Deily, kdeily142@yahoo.com



If anyone needs SUNSHINE--e-mail Kathy Deily at kdeily142@yahoo.com and she will send a get well/thinking of you/sympathy card

\$ Notes from the Treasurer \$

Carolyn Lance, Treasurer – kcmlance@verizon.net; (732) 491-1318 (text only); (732) 383-9126 (voice calls); Pat Kaufhold, Asst. Treasurer – daffodilpat@gmail.com

Please remember to use the appropriate form(s) when:

- Submitting monies to be deposited
- Requesting reimbursement of club expenses
- Requesting a check be cut or a bill paid

(No blank checks will be issued, no exceptions)

Forms are available at all meetings and can also be found online on the Franklin Woman's Club website at <https://www.franklinwomansclub.com/treasurer-s-page>.

A copy of the approved budget is also available on the Club's website

at <https://www.franklinwomansclub.com/2018%20-%202019%20Budget.pdf>

Members' Corner



January Birthdays

1/5 Nina Blair
1/8 Deana Luchs
1/14 Nancy Hargett
1/17 Caroline Solimine
1/24 Ellen Junas

Notes from the Holidays:

- Contributed by Phyllis Beals - Highlights of my December holiday time were the trip to see the Christmas trees at Morven Museum in Princeton and the tour of Drumthwacket, the official state residence of the Governor of New Jersey. It was my second time to see the trees in Morven but my first to Drumthwacket. Thank you, Geri Krassowski, for obtaining free passes so members from our club could go to these events free of charge. Highly recommend for future years.

- Contributed by Mary Lou Bak - I have an interesting gift that I received: A friend with whom I swap recipes and meal ideas gave me a Charcuterie Board cookbook. We have been following the Charcuterie trend, and I was surprised to receive this detailed collection of ideas to serve appetizers in very creative ways.



Editor's Note – Here are some charcuterie boards we were treated to over the holidays! (The ones on the left were actually served on real tree boards!)



Saturday Morning History Chat

Clara Barton, portrayed by Alisa Dupuy

Saturday, January 15, 2022 at 10:30am via Zoom

Presented by Alisa Dupuy, Ladies of History

REGISTER HERE: <https://tinyurl.com/myxu3hv6>

Founder of the American Red Cross, Clara Barton is one of the most honored women in United States history. Learn about the extraordinary life of this incredible woman, as she is portrayed by Alisa Dupuy. There will be time for Q&A following the presentation. This program will not be recorded.

Alisa Dupuy, a favorite presenter at Franklin Woman's Club, has been a highly qualified teacher in the Princeton Public School district since 1995, received accolades and awards during her tenure as a French teacher and speaks five languages. She is a member of the Society for Creative Anachronism, which is a living history group and has researched her subjects extensively. She portrays Annis Boudinot Stockton for Morven Museum & Garden in Princeton and is a member of the Newtown Historic Association where she has

volunteered and performed as Martha Washington and Queen Victoria. She regularly does programs for several museums, historical societies and library systems in the tri-state area.

Members' Corner is a way to share information about what our club members and what they have been doing to keep busy, fun on-line programs you've attended or are aware of, and any other items that may be of interest to the FWC, such as awards, or family celebrations. Please email the newsletter editor, Nancy Gale, NanLG@aol.com, with anything that you'd like to share. We'll include it in our next issue.

Contact Us

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P. O. Box 5793, Somerset, NJ 08875

Email - franklinwomansclub@gmail.com

Website - <http://franklinwomansclub.com>

General Federation of Women's Clubs website - <http://www.gfwc.org>

To obtain a Member ID contact the webmaster at webmaster@njsfwc.org. In your e-mail include our club name (Franklin Woman's Club), district (College), and preferred username. You will receive an email with a temporary password. This individual member login gives you access to a lot of additional information not available to the general public.



New Jersey State Federation Women's Club website- <http://www.njsfwc.org>

If you'd like more information on what's happening with other Woman's Clubs around the state, check out this link to the NJSFWC's Jan Almanac – <https://njsfwc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/January2022ALMANACWebsite.pdf>