



Franklin Woman's Club

Friendship & Community Service Since 1922



College District – NJSFWC of GFWC, P.O. Box 5793, Somerset, NJ 08875
Email - franklinwomansclub@gmail.com, Website - <http://franklinwomansclub.com>
Newsletter Editor - Nancy Gale, NancLG@aol.com, 848-702-9714 (cell)



September 6, 2022 Newsletter



FWC Calendar

Sep 6 - Book Club @7 PM, Somerset Diner
Sep 13 - General Meeting, @6:30 PM, Franklin High School Cafeteria
Sep 22 - College District September Council @10:30 AM, Federation Headquarters
Sep 24 - Franklin Day from 1-5 PM, Municipal Complex
Sep 27 - Zoom Executive Board Meeting, time to be announced
Oct 13 - K9 and Service Gift Auction, doors open at 4:30 PM-Drawings at 6:30 PM at Addison Park, Keyport (see flyer)

FWC Co-Presidents' Report - Mary Lou Bak, marylb656@cs.com, Geri Krassowski, gerik2@gmail.com

We hope you have had a good summer and have been able to gather with family and friends. We represented the Club at the National Night Out at the Municipal Center for the third in the series of Franklin Days. Many people stopped by and expressed interest in learning more about the Club. We will also set up another table at the last Franklin Day on Saturday, September 24th from 1-5 PM, again at the Municipal Center, where we will again have information to share about the Club. Please consider helping for part of the afternoon. We will have a signup sheet at the September General meeting.

Thank you to 2nd Vice President, Sarah Melvin, and her team for a successful Summer Social! In addition to members gathering to catch up and share refreshments, guests attended and were able to learn about our Club. We hope they will attend a future meeting and consider joining.

We will return to Franklin High School for our meetings, which start at 6:30 PM. We are again being asked to leave at 8:30 PM, so the start time of 6:30 PM allows us to cover the business meeting, program, and refreshments. We plan to have a hybrid meeting where those who can't attend in person will be able to participate and enjoy the programs. A Zoom link will be sent out before the meeting. Currently, masks are not required at the school, but you are welcome to wear a mask to feel comfortable.

The Club is 100 years old, having been founded in 1922. We have quite a legacy to celebrate and continue! All that we do in service for each other, the community, and the larger national and global communities testifies to the importance of working together and the success it brings. Perhaps as we remember the many projects over 100 years that the Club has engaged in, you will consider chairing or co-chairing a project or committee. Among the areas needing assistance are Shot-At-Life, Free-the-Girls, Arts and Culture, Civic Engagement and Outreach, Fundraising, and Publicity. Ideas and help to get started in these and other areas are available from Officers and current and former Chairs. Don't hesitate to ask for more information.

We are looking forward to welcoming everyone back!

Geri and Mary Lou

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

Here are just some of the interesting programs to look forward to in the upcoming club year:

- **Wildlife and Your Home** with Somerset County Parks
- **Suicide Prevention and awareness month**
- **Domestic Violence awareness month**
- **Tea Knowledge**
- **Pollinator Gardens** - why they are important and how they affect our yards and communities. Presented by the Master Gardeners of Somerset County. Also learn about the pollinator garden that FWC and Master Gardeners planted at the Franklin Township Library Gazebo
- **Historic Impersonator** Carol Simon Levin from Telling Her Stories will present a program on a famous woman in history

FYI - For the members that enjoyed our program about decluttering with **Jaime Novak** a few months ago, here is a chance to see her with a new topic via zoom. Wednesday, September 07, 7:00pm - 8:00pm

In this program, she will guide you through making a "GO binder" that has all of your important information at your fingertips. It is called **Organizing for the Unexpected**

Here is the link if you are interested:

[Organize for the Unexpected - Somerset County Library System of New Jersey \(libnet.info\)](https://libnet.info)

Membership – Sarah Melvin, 2nd VP, sarahmelvin@gmail.com, 609-510-5994 (cell)

Welcome back, FWC Members!

I wanted to start with a huge thank you to our former Membership Chair Stephanie Carr who did a marvellous job in the role and has left very big boots to fill. Thank you for everything you did and continue to do for our club and thank you for all the help you have given me personally, Steph.

Summer Social

Our Summer Social at Inman Park on Sunday, August 28th was well attended by members and we also had a couple of guests join us, which was nice. It was a lovely Summer afternoon, time flew, and it was great to see so many people enjoying themselves. The food turned out great and the trivia quiz was fun, especially the picture round. Holding the event outdoors due to Covid concerns proved to be the right thing to do and we were lucky with the weather. This was the first event I have organised for the club and due to the generous spirit of everyone who attended, I feel it was a success. Thank you to all those who helped both on the day and beforehand, I could not have done it without you.

Guests

Guests are always very welcome at our meetings. If you would like to invite a guest (or more) to the September meeting, please let Sarah know beforehand.

Membership Committee

We are always looking for members to join the committee. We greet our members at meetings, interact with guests and work on member recruitment and outreach. It's a great way of stepping up your involvement in the club without too much commitment. If you're interested, please mention it to Sarah.

Dues

This is a reminder that if you have not renewed your membership in the Franklin Woman's Club for the 2022-2023 year, you can still do so without a late fee through to the end of September.

The cost is \$38 for the general membership and \$28 for life members with 25 or more years of service.

Please mail your cheque (made payable to Franklin Woman's Club) directly to our treasurer:

Carolyn Lance
24 Susan Drive
Somerset
NJ 08873

Additionally, I will be accepting payments in person at the September meeting. Cheques only, please.

If anyone was thinking of renewing their membership but is currently facing financial hardship, please contact Sarah and we can work together to sort something out. This will be treated in the **strictest confidence**.

Thank you to those who have renewed their membership already. At last count we had 49 members of varying status and I know there are more to come. Hopefully this year we will be able to take full advantage of meeting in person.

If you have any questions regarding dues or membership, feel free to contact Sarah Melvin

Arts and Culture – Chair Needed

Interested in chairing this committee? It can be as simple as finding interesting arts programs, a cultural event or presentation, or leading or organizing a crafts project. Anyone can contribute ideas and suggestions!

Museum Day on Sept. 17th

Museum Day is an annual celebration of boundless curiosity hosted by Smithsonian magazine. Participating museums and cultural institutions across the country provide free entry to anyone presenting a Museum Day ticket. Click on the link to get your free ticket.

[Search for a Museum | History, Travel, Arts, Science, People, Places Smithsonian Magazine](#)

Save the dates!



The Journey Through the Past is October 8th and 9th, 2022

[Check out our growing list of participating sites!](#)

Pressed Flowers - Now is the time to collect Queen Anne's Lace wildflowers and place them between paper; place inside pages of a heavy book or you can make your own flower press. Fall pansies also make good pressed flowers. If you're interested in a day or evening workshop on pressed flower art projects, let Phyllis Beals know. For more information check out <https://www.firstdayofhome.com/how-to-press-flowers/>

Domestic Violence Committee – Ellen Junas, Chair, ellen.junas.att@icloud.com

Safe and Sound of Somerset County will hold an annual vigil of Candles/ Kites of Hope October 19, 2022 from 7pm to 7:45 pm at Somerset County Court house. Will have more information at the September Meeting.

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

Girls' Career Institute - After being sidelined by the pandemic for two years, GCI was held this year from June 6-9th at the Douglass Residential College on the campus of Rutgers University. We were fortunate to send three Delegates this year and these Franklin High School Juniors had the great experience of a sample college life by living in a dorm, eating in a cafeteria, and attended lectures and workshops for these four days. Our own Stephanie Carr was the lead housemother this year and said the whole program was a success and all the girls who attended said it was a wonderful experience for them. Thank you also to Tracey Coney and Nancy Gale for attending the GCI

events and being Club Women Site Volunteers. We are looking to have the GCI attendees come to our October meeting for them to share their own GCI experience stories.

Scholarship - Another accomplishment we had this year was awarding four High School Seniors, who reside in Franklin Township, \$1000.00 each in Scholarship funds. The Club acknowledged and recognized our winners at our annual meeting in May. It was a great night, and it was nice to hear these young ladies' stories and major accomplishments. I am proud to say that everyone was pleased with the E&L Committee's selections and these students were accepted and went to the colleges of their choice. We all wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors



For this coming year, we will continue with our major projects which will include the Girl's Career Institute (GCI), FWC Scholarship Program, a book drive donation to a local organization, and hopefully another exciting venture for our Club.

Looking forward to another great year and if anyone else wants to join the E&L Committee, please feel free to contact Cheray at (732)-208-9576.

Environment – Nancy Gale, Chair, NancLG@aol.com, 848-702-9714 (cell)

Catching up on Spring and Summer activities:

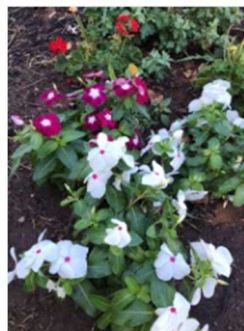
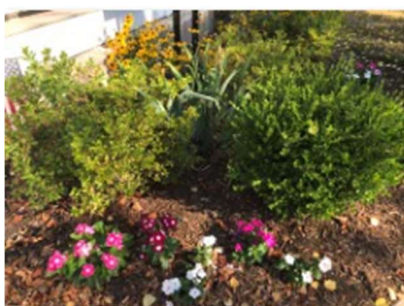
Spring Garden Tour – Last May club members toured the Cross Estate Gardens, part of Morristown National Historical Park in Bernardsville. The early twentieth-century landscape of the Cross Estate, included a formal perennial garden, a wisteria-covered pergola, a mountain laurel alley, and a garden of native plants.

<https://www.crossestategardens.org/>

Gazebo Flower Planting – Club members once again be planted flowers at the township gazebo this past spring. Several also returned throughout the summer to help keep the garden watered.



Thanks to all who volunteered to help beautify our community!



Proposed Power Plant in Woodbridge - Franklin Woman's Club has always been environmentally concerned and has supported the fight against the Compressor Station proposed as part of the NESE project. There is another project which is just as close to us (not that proximity matters as the pollution spreads for miles and the devastating impact on the Climate Crisis isn't stop by borders on a map) – a proposed power plant in Woodbridge, on the Raritan River waterfront, an environmentally sensitive area. There are many reasons to oppose this proposal, but the most important one is that it is expected to spew millions of tons of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere every year. On behalf of the FWC, this committee Chair has signed on to the organizational letter to the Governor, opposing this project. We join the Franklin Township Environmental Commission and the Franklin Township Council, which have both passed resolutions against this project. For more info you can check out <http://Dontgasmiddlesex.com>)

Health and Wellness – Phyllis Beals, Chair, awpbeals@comcast.net, 732-331-3416 (cell)

Thank you, Valerie Buckner, for so many years of leadership for the community service program now known as Health and Wellness; in the past it was called International Outreach. Under Valerie's leadership our club donated generously to Shot at Life (to improve vaccination rates for children in underdeveloped countries), Operation Smile (to help children preparing for or undergoing cleft palate surgery) Free the Girls (helping young women who may have been victims of human or sex trafficking) among other service projects. Keeping us informed of important prevention efforts such as getting regular mammograms, heart health tips and more she will be missed in this service area.

Tough shoes to fill, but I am eager to try and continue the good work Valerie and our club has done in this service program area. I would like to invite any members interested in this service area to meet as a committee. If interested, please reach out to me or let me know at the September regular meeting.

September is recognized as Suicide Prevention month by NAMI (National Alliance for Mental Illness) and other health organizations. If you or someone you know is experiencing a mental health, suicide or substance use crisis or emotional distress, reach out 24/7 to the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline (formerly known as the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline) by dialing or texting [988](tel:988) or using chat services at suicidepreventionlifeline.org to connect to a trained crisis counselor. You can also get crisis text support via the Crisis Text Line by [texting NAMI to 741741](https://textingnami.org). At our September meeting, flyers announcing the new 988 hotline will be available, and members will be asked to get one flyer posted in a store or a doctor's office or other location to help get this information out.

Hospitality Committee – Karen Bauer, Chair, karenteach228@aol.com, 908-265-3279 (cell)

The Hospitality committee is looking for volunteers to help out with a few snacks for our first meeting on September 13th. If you would like to bake or bring something, send Karen Bauer an email at [Karenteach228@aol.com](mailto:karenteach228@aol.com). Tell her what you might bring and a phone number to reach you. This is in case we have too many snacks coming for the meeting.



Thanks!
Karen Bauer

Legislation and Political Involvement - Sue Carroll, Chair, scarroll@rutgers.edu, 732-690-0916 (cell)

Labor Day has passed, and that means we now begin campaign season. It is not too early to think about voting in the upcoming midterm election. The election is on November 8 this year (always the second Tuesday in November). If you are not registered to vote, the deadline to do so is October 18.

Many of us became accustomed to voting by mail during the pandemic and found that we liked the convenience of doing so. In-person voting will once again be an option in 2022. However, if you wish to vote by mail, you must now complete an application to do so. You will not automatically receive a vote-by-mail ballot unless you previously applied and selected the option to receive mail ballots for all future elections. You can learn how to obtain a vote-by-mail application (or print one off) at [vote \(lwvnj.org\)](https://www.lwvnj.org), a League of Women Voters site which has all kinds of great information about participating in the upcoming election. Although you have until November 1 to submit your application for a mail-in ballot, why wait?

Our committee has taken a break over the summer, but we are following a couple of important developments that emerged in Franklin Township during the summer months. One is the proliferation of new warehouses being planned or developed in the township and the activism that has emerged in opposition. If interested, you can read about one of the activist efforts and a call to sign a petition here: [Petition · Stop Warehouse Sprawl in Franklin Township, Somerset County, New Jersey · Change.org](https://www.petitionstopwarehouse.com) While it is unclear that a petition will have much direct effect, it definitely reflects a high level of concern on the part of township residents. In response to strong public concern, the Franklin Township Council in July voted unanimously in favor of an ordinance that calls for a detailed study of warehousing and for rezoning certain properties to prohibit or make more restrictive the development of future warehouses in certain areas. Although the Council's action is a positive step, some consider the ordinance too little, too late since it will not affect the building of new warehouses for which applications have already been completed.

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



Over the Summer we read:



"The Gown" by Jennifer Robson

After she loses her beloved grandmother, Heather Mackenzie, finds a set of embroidered flowers that looks like the stunning embroidery in Queen Elizabeth II's wedding gown. She knows very little about her grandmother's past and sets out to discover more about her grandmother and the role she played in creating one of the most famous wedding gowns in history.

"The Invention of Wings" by Sue Monk Kidd

Hetty "Handful" Grimke was a slave in early nineteenth century Charleston and longs for a life beyond the borders of the Grimke household. She is given as a 13th birthday gift to Sarah Grimke who forges a complex relationship with Handful. Sarah's growing discomfort with slavery eventually leads her to the Quakers and becoming an early pioneer in the abolition and women's right movement.

"The Midnight Library" by Matt Haig

Have you ever wondered what your life would have been like if you made a different choice? What if there was a place where you could try out the outcome of making different choices? "The Midnight Library" is such a place and Nora Seed finds herself there with a decision to make. Is there a better life than the one she has?

"Klara and the Sun" by Kazuo Ishiguro

A futuristic tale about Klara, an Artificial Friend with outstanding observational qualities and Josie who leads an isolated life due to her poor health. Josie believes Klara will be her perfect AF and convinces her mother to buy her. Klara continues her careful observations and searches for a way to cure Josie.

➤ If anyone is interested in forming another 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 Service

Rutgers Student Food Pantry, Food Collection in October (Stephanie Carr, stephpto@comcast.net) - **We will be collecting shelf stable food items for the Rutgers Student Food Pantry at our October club meeting.** This was a successful event last Spring and makes a difference in the lives of Rutgers students, where food insecurity remains an issue. More info and list of needed items will be available soon.



Fundraising

Tricky Tray – Lisa Andreini, lisa-andreini@comcast.net (732-692-3309), **Stephanie Carr**, stephpto@comcast.net, (732-668-5430) **Co-Chairs**

If you have not already heard Stephanie Carr and myself are heading the Committee for this year's Tricky Tray. We are looking to keeping it similar to the ones we have had in the past hoping to book a date in March at the Franklin High School. We will be scaling down the number of people that attend and the amount of prizes.

As this is our biggest Club Fundraiser with proceeds going to Scholarships for High School Seniors, we are reaching out for those club members that have helped in the past to help again and other members that perhaps were unable to participate in this event that can help now. There are many jobs and positions that we need filled so we can make

this event a successful one. A sign-up list will be passed around during our September meeting of various volunteer positions. Please sign up for an area you are interested in helping with.

Please reach out to Stephanie or myself with any questions you may have.

Thank you,
Lisa Andreini

Boscov's Friends Helping Friends Event: Wed Oct 19th, 2022 at Woodbridge Location _ Stephanie Carr

Boscov's 'Friends Helping Friends' FWC Club Fundraiser will be held (in store only) on Wed October 19, 2022. (8AM-11 PM) at all Boscov locations. The nearest store to us is located at the Woodbridge NJ Mall (off Route 1) <https://locations.boscovs.com/nj/woodbridge/441-woodbridge-center-dr.html>

For the sixth year, our club will participate in Boscov's Friends Helping Friends Day! Not familiar with Boscov's? Think of it as a department store with discount store pricing.

*** How it Works:** We offer shopping passes for a \$5 donation (to our club) each, and you enjoy 25% off most items. You can also register to win a \$100 Boscov's gift card at every Boscov's store. You can use your shopping pass as many times as you wish that day.

So spread the word among friends, family, neighbors. as this is a fundraiser for the club. There will be a sign out sheet for them at our Sept and Oct meetings (you can take a few on the honor system to sell), but they should not be given away.

Shop Rite Gift Cards – Stephanie Carr

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. They also make a great and practical gift for family and friends. Please contact Stephanie to purchase cards, and yes, we can arrange to get them to you over the summer. Cards will be available at all club meetings and events.

Terri Lynn - Delores Still, gvxm33a@prodigy.net

Orders for nuts and candy will be available online this year. It is quick and easy. You can send Terri Lynn goodies to friends and relatives directly from Terri Lynn.

CHECK IT OUT!!

GO TO: <https://help.terri Lynn.com/where-to-buy>

Enter **Franklin** and click **Submit**. (it will default to Franklin Woman's Club) Then click **Shop Now**. All items are packaged in one-pound increments. *ENJOY and thank you.*

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

The new Special State Project has been announced: **Emmanuel Cancer Foundation**, a 40-year-old organization whose mission is to provide emotional and material support to a family when it receives a cancer diagnosis for a child. Our new NJFWC President, Shirley Holly, and her family have volunteered with this organization for twenty years, in work that meets each family's needs directly. With several locations around the state, the one in Clark is the closest to our District. Their website is <https://www.emmanuelcancer.org>

Sunshine – Kathy Deily, kdeily142@yahoo.com



If anyone need SUNSHINE --get well, thinking-of-you or sympathy cards, pls contact Kathy Deily at kdeily142@yahoo.com

\$ 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>



Summer Birthdays:

June- Lee Boyer, MaryAnn Renzulli, Toni Alston, Marylou Bak, Tracey Coney-Muse

July- Pat Kaufhold, Amy Manifase, Jennifer Welch, Cheray Wright, Kathleen Williamson, Pat Calvo, Diane Forino

August- Christina Zambri, Phyllis Beals, Mary Ann Vetter, Susan Carroll, Kathy Deily, Jigna Dave, Nancy Gale

September Birthdays

9/6 Sharon Coney

9/10 Lisa Andreini

9/10 Heidi Hanson

9/14 Ree Adler

9/16 Missy Holzer

9/19 Joy Baptiste

What did you do on vacation?

Geri Krassowski – Andy & I celebrated our 35th anniversary with a 12-day Viking River cruise this past July. Despite the 100-degree temperatures in Germany it was still a fabulous trip! We saw many old towns with their medieval castles and cobblestone streets. A pre-boat tour of Prague, Czech Republic and post-trip to Paris were spectacular although a little exhausting. I never walked that many miles on vacation! I highly recommend a river cruise. With only 178 passengers it was never crowded or overwhelming.

The photo is not mine, I am still editing and processing my 1000 plus photos.



Phyllis Beals - A love of traveling and wanting to see (and swim in) each of the Great Lakes prompted my husband & I to venture to Lake Superior, the "greatest" by size, depth and cool temperatures. The lake temps remain so cool that little vegetation grows in the lake, giving it the very blue color. Water temperature was about 68/70 at Marquette Mi. but we enjoyed the refreshing dip for a short while! Also quite beautiful & unusual along that lake is

the geological formation which is known as "Pictured Rocks" so called because minerals have streaked/stained the red sandstone and create the artwork, so to speak. Nature is art in so many ways!

Cheray Wright - I had a wonderful summer. I celebrated a milestone Birthday in July, a milestone anniversary (25 years) with my hubby Steve. My son Travis graduated Rutgers in June and got accepted to his dream college to do his Master's Program at Johns Hopkins this year. My other son, Damon, is going to Hunter College in NYC this year (closer to home). I travelled to Belize to spend time with my parents for almost three months. I was also fortunate to spend time in Florida and Martha's Vineyard. Thanks for my experience with FWC and having the E&L Chairperson Role, I decided to take an educational course at Cornell this Fall in Project Management.

MaryAnn Renzulli – My husband and I are cruising up to Canada. We will be returning on Saturday September 10. Just in time for the meeting on the 13th. Can't wait 😊
By the way in February I became a great grandma!

And speaking of Babies!

Congratulations to the following club members for becoming first-time grandmothers!

Amy Manifest:

Emma Elise Manifest born on 7/3



Joanne Murset:

"My daughter Carolyn & her husband Tim welcomed their first child, a baby girl named Zoe Olivia Ellis, on June 30. Zoe (pronounced Zoey) weighed in at 7 lbs., 11 oz, and was 20 inches long.

She is the first grandchild for us, and for Tim's parents, so she will have lots of people to love and spoil her. Mark and I hope she calls us Mom-Mom and Pop-Pop, which were the beloved terms for grandparents in both of our families. Speaking of names, did you notice that Zoe's initials spell her name?!

At 2 months old, Zoe's hobbies include playing with her fingers and looking cute for visiting relatives. I'll be happy to show you a photo next time I see you!"

Carolyn Lance:

Proud grandma of Stella Avaiah Morris, born April 29.



Also, **Nancy Gale** welcomed two new grandnieces recently – Winslow Joy Leonard (Winnie) was born May 26 in Virginia, and Lola James Leonard was born August 18 in Geneva, Switzerland.

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, NanCLG@aol.com, with anything that you'd like to share. We'll include it in our next issue.

Contact Us

Mail - Franklin Woman's Club
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 Women's Clubs around the state, check out this link to the NJSFWC's Sept Almanac – <https://njsfwc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/September2022ALMANAC-Web.pdf>