



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)



April 5, 2022 Newsletter



FWC Calendar

Apr 5 – FWC Book Club, Somerset Diner @7pm
Apr 12 – FWC General Meeting @6:30pm – Franklin High School Cafeteria
Apr 21 – District Achievement Day – Somerville BPO Elks, Bridgewater

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

Beautiful April is here. Hopefully you will have an opportunity to take in some of the local sights of spring such as the huge circles of daffodils at Colonial Park perennial garden area.

Tuesday April 12 @ 6:30 p.m. we will again hold our regular membership meeting in hybrid format as it went well in March. With the new covid-19 variant showing up in NJ we will continue to wear masks at the meeting, maintain safe distances, and if you notice any signs of a cold or other symptoms developing, it may be preferable to participate from home via zoom.

Election of officers will take place at the April meeting. Amy Manifase has lined up another outstanding presenter for our program time.

Please review four proposed resolutions which will be voted on at the NJSFWC convention in late April. The resolutions will be sent in separate email. Geri Krassowski and Phyllis Beals are the two delegates from our club who will attend the convention and represent our club.

There is still time to sign up for the College District Spring Conference and Achievement Day on Thursday April 21 at Somerville Elks Lodge. If you are interested, please contact this officer as soon as possible as the deadline for reservations is approaching.

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

The District Civic Engagement and Outreach (CEO) Day at Federation Headquarters was very informative. The organizations represented do very important and uplifting work, giving clubs ideas for speakers and service projects. In addition to Sister2Sister and the Center for Great Expectations, there was another organization also located in Somerset that I was unaware of called The Simuel Whitfield Simmons Organization (SWS). It offers family assistance, youth programs, and collection and distribution of food, furniture, and other goods. One way to help the SWS organization is by donating items that are still usable, such as beds for example. You can reach out to the CEO and Founder, Natasha Rodgers: 732-246-1585, email natasha@swsorganization.org The organization website is www.swsorganization.org

Details about the all the organizations represented at the CEO Day as well as contact information will be forwarded to all Clubs in our District. Stay tuned.

Wishing you a Happy Easter and a Happy Passover!

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

April 12 Program: Simplify Weekly Meal Planning



Are you bored with your meal choices? Would you like to make cooking and meal planning less stressful? In this class you will learn tips, strategies, and recipes for delicious weekly meals. We will cover stretching meals creatively over multiple days, delicious flavor combinations, kitchen organization, and simple strategies that work whether you are cooking for one or a crowd.

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

2021-2022 Membership Dues

If you have not already renewed your club dues for the 2022-2023 club year, now is the time!
The cost remains at \$38 for the General Membership and \$28 for Life Members with 25+ years of service.

Please renew by **April 15th**.

For record keeping purposes, we are only accepting personal checks (made payable to Franklin Woman's Club). You can bring it to our April meeting or May dinner or mail it to Stephanie Carr.

If any of your information (address, email, phone #) has changed in the past year, please let us know, as we will be working on the new yearbook over the summer.

Mail your check to:
Stephanie Carr
155 Emerson Rd
Somerset, NJ 08873

Stephanie will email you that your check has been received.

Although our next club fiscal year doesn't start until July 1, dues are paid in advance so our membership numbers can be reported to the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs (NJSFWC), prior to May 1. Twenty-five dollars (\$25) of each members' due payment is sent to NJSFWC and the remainder goes into our General Fund.

Guests: If you have a guest interested in attending our April meeting, please let Stephanie know. This is a great time to join the club for the 2022-2023 club year and get in on all the activities.

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

Girls' Outing: Lunch and a Play - Sunday, May 15 – Join us for the 2 pm show at Somerset Valley Playhouse, of “The Savannah Sipping Society”, preceded by lunch and beverages at Old York Cellars. You can get food from their menu now or bring your own picnic lunch.



Play description - Four unique Southern women are drawn together by Fate—and an impromptu happy hour—and decide it's high time to reclaim the enthusiasm for life they've lost through the years. Over the course of six months, filled with laughter, hilarious misadventures, and the occasional liquid refreshment, these middle-aged women successfully bond and find the confidence to jumpstart their new lives. Together, they discover lasting friendships and a renewed determination to live in the moment—and most importantly, realize it's never too late to make new old friends.

Somerset Valley Playhouse - 689 Amwell Road (Rte 514), Hillsborough. Carpooling can be arranged. Email Geri at gerik2@gmail.com if interested so ticket purchase can be coordinated. Adults \$20 - Seniors/Students \$18. You can bring your ticket money and look for more info at our general meeting on April 12.

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

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

- **Girls Career Institute (GCI)**

Good News! Rutgers has confirmed the use of the dorms for GCI, so it will go on as scheduled. We received a total of twelve applications from students who are very interested in the GCI Experience. Everyone on the E&L Committee is currently reviewing the applications and selecting the top four candidates - Two delegates and Two alternates. The selections will be announced shortly.

- **Scholarship**

This year the FWC will be awarding four scholarships to seniors that reside in Franklin Township, will graduate high school In Spring of 2022, and are accepted to a 2- or 4-year college. Applications from students are being received.



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

- **Annual John Clyde Stream Clean Up: Mile Run - Saturday, April 9th, 2022, 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon**



Earth Day is April 22. Since its inception in 1970, Earth Day has brought millions of people together to celebrate our world's environment. The day has also focused our attention on environmental problems such as pollution, flooding and littering. The Franklin Township Environmental Commission (FTEC) is inviting residents to help clean up Mile Run. Stream clean-up is our tradition started by former Franklin mayor John Clyde. For this important project, the FTEC is partnering with New Brunswick Environmental Commission (NBEC), Lower Raritan Watershed Partnership (LRWP), Friends of Mile Run, AmeriCorps, The Watershed Institute (TWI) and others. Since 2007, with the help of hundreds of volunteers, we have removed more than 26,000 pounds of garbage from streams in our town. We will kick off the clean-up from the intersection of Hamilton and Woodbridge Streets at 9:30 AM. Stream Clean-up coordinators will meet you there and get you started. Parking: Saint Peter and Paul Church, 285 Hamilton Street, Somerset. All job supplies (gloves, garbage bags, pickers) will be provided. Please, bring a reusable water bottle, wear appropriate closed toe footwear for rough terrain, long sleeves and long pants. Light refreshments and water will be available.

Registration is required – here is the link:

<https://lowerraritanwatershed.org/event/april-9-clean-of-the-mile-run-brook/>

You can email me if you can volunteer (even for an hour) at NanclG@aol.com



- **Get Past Plastic – Volunteers are Needed!**

Ban on Single-Use Carryout Bags, Ban on Polystyrene Foam Food Service Products, and Plastic Straws By-Request-Only Law

Franklin Woman's Club is partnering with Franklin Township Environmental Commission to educate shoppers on the law going into effect May 4. 2-3 volunteers from FWC & the Environmental Commission will be at several supermarkets in the area to distribute informational flyers on the law and complementary reusable shopping bags (same as members received at the March meeting).

Your help is needed. These dates and locations have been confirmed:

Sat 4/16 - Stop & Shop, Franklin Park
Sat 4/30 - Stop & Shop, Rte 27 & Veronica Ave



These dates and locations are tentative:

Sat 4/23 – Shop Rite, Elizabeth Ave
Sat 4/23 or 4/30 – Stop & Shop, Easton Ave



Times 11am-2pm – We can split shifts 11am-1230pm and 1230pm-2pm

Please contact Nancy Gale, NanclG@aol.com, 848-702-9714, if you can help!

- **RU Ready 2 Garden Webinars - Online**

We want to help you grow quality food for your family and pick the best plants for your landscape with our weekly webcast *RU Ready 2 Garden*. The one-hour webcast will take place each Tuesday in April of 2022 at 6:30 pm.

Master Gardener educators and New Jersey Agricultural Experiment station experts will offer advice for gardeners of all levels with a different topic each week.

[See the schedule and register here](#)

If you are new to the webcast and would like an invite to our April sessions simply email mastergardeners@co.middlesex.nj.us with "RU Ready" as the Subject



Get quality information on gardening topics from our *past webinars*
[Follow this link to view episodes of the **RU Ready 2 Garden**](#) webinar series

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

Stop The Ignorance, Gain More Awareness The Stigma Free Campaign, an initiative of the Somerset County Department of Human Services, seeks to raise awareness about the negative effects that mental health stigma has on the community. The members of the group Stigma Free Somerset County use several methods to do this. They encourage us to educate ourselves about stigma and how it affects our community, and to Take the Pledge to be stigma free. (Our president is in the process of doing that for the club, but you could also do it individually.) They also have a toolkit and a Words Matter language chart. For example, the language guide shows that we should say "died by suicide" rather than "committed suicide" or "killed him/herself."

The above was paraphrased from the website of the Somerset County Department of Human Services. For more details on the subject, visit co.somerset.nj.us/government/human-services/stigma-free-2645.

In May, during Mental Health Awareness Month, we will distribute posters/flyers about the new 988 suicide prevention lifeline/hotline number that will go live in July.

Shot@Life - The total amount donated by you at our March 8 meeting was \$88. Thank you very much!

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

Did you know that the reach of the GFWC extends all the way to Ukraine? Yes, there is a Women's Club of Ukraine, and the club has been actively engaged in teaching first aid and helping the citizenry as Russia continues its brutal attacks on the country. You might want to visit the club's Facebook page to follow what is happening: [GFWC Women's Club of Ukr - Home | Facebook](#)


In addition, UNICEF USA is a GFWC Affiliate Organization, and GFWC has supported UNICEF campaigns for more than six decades, helping to increase the access of vulnerable children around the world to education, health care, clean water, and safety. If you are interested in providing some financial assistance to Ukrainians at this critical time, you might consider a contribution to UNICEF USA's efforts to help Ukraine's children. You can donate here: [Humanitarian Aid for Children in Crisis | UNICEF USA](#)

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



Our March book was "The Readers of Broken Wheel Recommend" by Katarina Bivald. Sara is from Sweden and Amy is from Broken Wheel Iowa. The 2 become friends through letters and their mutual love of books. Sara decides to make a daring move and accept Amy's invitation to visit but she arrives just in time for Amy's funeral. Instead of going back to Sweden, Sara decides to stay in Broken Wheel as planned and opens a bookstore with Amy's vast collection of books. As Sara gets to know the important people in Amy's life, she shares her love of books and creates a life for herself that will be difficult to leave behind when her visit ends.

NEW Daytime Book Club Forming!

Anyone interested in joining the daytime book club ? If so, please contact me: Ellen Junas at ellen.junas.att@icloud.com.

Day would be the 3rd Wednesday of the month. Time would be at 3 pm. We would meet for 1 hr.

I would like to have our first meeting on Wednesday May 18, 2022. We probably would meet for a little longer than an hour, most likely it would be a zoom meeting. We will discuss how the book club should be run and what type of books we would like to read. Prior to the meeting if anyone would like to make a suggestion of a book it would be greatly appreciated!

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

>**Rutgers Student Food Pantry - Food Drive-** (Stephanie Carr, stephpto@comcast.net, 732-668-5430)

We will again be collecting at our April general meeting non perishable food items for the Rutgers Student Food Pantry. You can bring in non-perishable food items, as given on the flyer sent with this newsletter, keeping in mind these will be used by students who have limited access to kitchens. You can learn more on their website <http://ruoffcampus.rutgers.edu/food> and even purchase food items utilizing their Amazon Wishlist: <https://tinyurl.com/rufoodpantrywishlist>



Our March food collection was delivered to the food pantry and was over 110 items, about 135 lbs and valued an estimated \$200. Thanks to all who carried in those cans!



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.



➤ **Cheesecake Fundraiser** – Tracy Muse, (732) 895-9295, tracygcm7@gmail.com

The cheesecake fundraiser is now over, thanks to all of you who purchased, it was very successful! I hoped with all we sold the amount raised would be more, but the cheesecakes were a lil expensive! Shout out to Joy Baptist, she sold over \$400 worth of cheesecakes! **The pies will be distributed at our next meeting April 12th, 6:30pm-8:30pm @ Franklin High School cafeteria, so please make arrangements to pick up then, they MUST be refrigerated, unless you've made arrangements with me. (You can also pick up from my home before or after meeting on April 12th, if that's more convenient for you; 8 Hageman Rd, Somerset).** Thanks!



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

Operation Chillout

Last chance to buy tickets for the handmade quilt being raffled to benefit Operation Chillout! (see the picture on the NJSFWC website under Materials) See Marylou at the next meeting for tickets!



Sunshine – Kathy Deily, kdeily142@yahoo.com

If anyone need sunshine--sympathy/get well/thinking-of-you, 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>



April Birthdays

4/5	Mary Ann Savino
4/12	Doris Carneglia
4/14	Maria Hudak
4/14	Eugenia Karanikas
4/19	Tina Kanterman

FRANKLIN WOMAN'S CLUB SLATE OF CANDIDATES FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS / CLUB OFFICERS

2022-2023 YEAR

Co-Presidents: Mary Lou Bak and Gerri Krassowski

First Vice President/Programs: Amy Manifase

Second Vice President/Membership: Sarah Melvin

Recording Secretary: Lisa Andreini*

Corresponding Secretary: Carolyn Solimine

Treasurer: Carolyn Lance

ADVISORS: Nancy Hargett, Joanne Murset, Phyllis Beals

* We would still appreciate someone new volunteering for the position, or at least offer to back up Lisa

Hold These Dates:

➤ **Tour de Franklin/ Franklin Food Bank** – Sunday, April 24th

33rd Annual Tour de Franklin will take place on April 24, 2022. It will be back in person at Franklin Township High School (following local health and safety guidance). The Tour de Franklin has been the largest individual fundraiser for the Franklin Food Bank.



There are two ways you can help:

Walk or ride! [Register](#) as an individual, team, or virtual rider and create a fundraising page to share with your friends and family. Neighbors helping neighbors is our motto. Your fundraising makes that help a reality.

Volunteer [Volunteer registration](#) is now open. As always roles will be filled on a first-come first-served basis.

There are still spots open. Four (4) members of FWC have signed up to help!!

➤ **Franklin Food Bank Empty Bowls is BACK!!!** - June 25th, 10AM-4 PM, The Franklin Township Gazebo
Gorgeous handmade art made by local artists, live music, warm June air, delicious food - what could be better? Oh,
ALSO helping out a great cause? Empty Bowls is BACK!!! There will be a Pottery & Art Sale once again
outdoors - but this time it's moved to the Gazebo!!! Registration is open today! Registrants are gifted a
complimentary bowl, each one even more beautiful than then next! <https://www.classy.org/event/empty-bowls-2022/e394887>



➤ **Franklin Project Graduation Used Clothing Drive** – Saturday, May 14, 2022
Drop Off at Franklin Middle School -SGS Campus, Amwell Rd, 8 AM- 1 PM. Flyer included with this email.



➤ **Great Expectations 2nd Annual Luncheon and Spring Market** - Friday April 29, noon-2 PM
FWC has historically supported The Center for Great Expectations, Somerset, which provides a safe place, safe presence and a safe path for pregnant and parenting women and their children seeking treatment for substance use and mental health disorders. This fundraiser will be at the Bridgewater Manor, Bridgewater NJ and tickets are \$60. Includes lunch, speakers, and a unique selection of vendors. If interested, speak to Stephanie Carr or visit weblink.donorperfect.com/HopeTakesFlight

➤ **Visiting Nurses Assoc Rummage Sale** – May 6 & 7 (9:30-3:30), 12:30pm-3:30pm
As we've all been cleaning out our closets since our meeting last month- it's time to donate!
Donations are accepted at the Far Hills Fairgrounds (also, the site of the sale) Monday- Saturday, April 9-26, 10am-1pm. Check the vna.org/rummage sale site for acceptable donations 😊
Happy Cleaning!

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@njswfc.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.njswfc.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 NJSWFC's April Almanac – <https://njswfc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/April2022-ALMANAC.pdf>