



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)



March 1, 2022 Newsletter



FWC Calendar

Mar 1 – FWC Book Club via Zoom @7pm
Mar 8 – FWC General Meeting @6:30pm – Franklin High School Cafeteria
Mar 24 – District Performing Arts Day @10am – NJSFWC Headquarters
Mar 26 – Bunco Fundraiser @1pm – Edison VFW Memorial Post 3117
Mar 27 – District Spelling Bee @1:30pm – NJSFWC Headquarters

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

March 2022 finds us tip toeing cautiously and optimistically toward being together in more social situations as we see the numbers of Covid-19 infections declining in our community. We will hold our March 8 meeting in person at Franklin High School cafeteria at 6:30 p.m. The author & presenter wishes to present virtually, and Amy Manifase our VP for Programs has arranged for this to be possible. See Amy's article about this great program coming up.

Our March meeting will include an installation of new members, and a COOKIE BAKING CONTEST, with three different categories! See the information below from Lisa Andreini about this fun and yummy addition to our meeting.

There will also be handouts including reusable shopping bags courtesy of the Franklin Twp Environmental Commission Chair Walter Andrews, husband of member Marilyn Andrews. Consumer Affairs Goodie Bags will also be handed out. We hope you can make the March 8 meeting!

At the same time, our world is shaken by the news of war in Ukraine. A list of places where you might donate money to assist victims of war in Ukraine, can be found at <https://fortune.com/2022/02/25/how-to-help-ukraine/> Additionally, [ICRC.org](https://www.icrc.org) (International Red Cross) or via the Ukrainian Orthodox Church website https://uocofusa.net/news_220224_1

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

As we commemorate Women's History Month, a guide to sites in New Jersey with important connections to women is accessed at <https://www.nj.gov/dep/hpo/1identify/whtrail2.htm>

There is news that on March 27th at 1:30 PM the College District will hold a District Spelling Bee after a long absence. Several District Clubs have sponsored their local Bees among 4th and 5th graders, with 3 winners from each local Bee attending the District Bee at Federation Headquarters. I have been asked to be a judge and am looking forward to participating in the event.

Happy Spring!

Rutgers Student Food Pantry - Food Drive- (Stephanie Carr, stephpto@comcast.net, 732-668-5430)
March and April meetings

Started in Fall 2016, the Rutgers Student Food Pantry is one of the over 20 food pantries in New Brunswick. It exclusively serves Rutgers students and is located at the College Ave Student Center. Since March 2020, there have been over 3000 student visits to the pantry.

To continue our support of addressing food insecurity in our area, we will be conducting a food drive during our March and April club meetings.



You can bring in nonperishable food items, as given on the attached flier, 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>

Spread the word, and if a woman friend/neighbor/colleague wants to donate and be a guest at our March or April meetings, they are welcomed. Any questions, contact Stephanie.

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

March 8 Program:

Declutter 101: what to donate, sell, recycle, and shred today

Ready to finally clear the closets and declutter your home? If you are feeling stuck about where to begin, this online program will cover it all. Join organizing humorist and bestselling author Jamie Novak when she reveals what to sell, donate, recycle, and which papers to shred. She will share the steps you need to decide what to do with all the stuff. And she will guide you through a live task to get a jumpstart on getting organized.

About Jamie:

You may have seen her on morning TV or read her newest bestseller, Keep This, Toss That. Jamie Novak hosts a 10 Minute Podcast and has a popular YouTube show. She spends most days presenting virtual programs on how to de-clutter, with a humorous twist. When not on the computer Jamie is searching for a cure to her addiction, of clipping out recipes, she never prepares. Be sure to check out JamieNovak.com to read her toss item of the day.

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

2021-2022 Membership Dues

We hope you are enjoying being a member of the Franklin Woman's Club and that you are planning to renew your membership for the 2022-2023 club year. 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 March or April meetings, 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 March 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

Arts and Culture Achievement Day Contest - April 21, 2022

Somerville BPO Elks #1068
375 Union Avenue
Bridgewater, NJ 08807



Club members are encouraged to enter various creative arts, crocheted or knitted items, baked goods, photos, paintings, and more at the College District Arts & Culture Achievement Day. It's a fun opportunity to show off your creations! If you can't attend but would like to enter something, please let Phyllis Beals know.

Find the information page, categories to be judged, and the entry form on the club website, in the For Members section (under More). <https://www.franklinwomansclub.com/for-members>

The Arts & Culture entry form is due to Adrienne Fowler NO LATER than March 31, 2022.

Adrienne Fowler
435 Front Street
Dunellen, NJ 08812-211
Phone: 732-968-1255

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

District Performing Arts Day – Will be held at 10am on March 24 at the NJSFWC headquarters. Come show your talent with a song (even lip synching), a poem reading, a short skit. Get a friend to join you and have fun! Deadline to register is Mar 17th.



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

- **Girls Career Institute (GCI)**

Great News!!! Although we are still awaiting word from Rutgers regarding our use of the dorms for GCI, 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. We will proudly announce our selections in next month's newsletter.

- **Scholarship**

Senior Scholarship Applications were sent out to nine schools in Somerset County in January to the following schools: Franklin High School, Thomas Edison, Central Jersey College Prep Charter School, Rutgers Preparatory School, Immaculata High School, Pingry, Union Catholic, Somerset County VoTec, and Timothy- Christian. 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 already coming in.



- **Book Donations**

Thank you all for your support and book donations for the Franklin Schools and the Read Across America project. A special thanks to Phyllis Beals for posting on parent social media apps, Sharon Seiwert for collecting and distributing the books to the schools, and our book sorters who helped with sorting the 1200+ books we collected - 543 books went to Elizabeth Avenue, 450 to Pine Grove, 200 to Macafee, and 100 to SCAP - Somerset Community Action Program.



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

➤ **Attracting Birds: Beyond the Birdfeeder** – In this video, a Rutgers Master Gardener discusses ways to attract birds to your backyard with native plants. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hemHqoWePmE>

➤ **YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!! How to Identify and Remove Spotted Lanternfly Eggs**

Now that the days are getting warmer, we can easily check around our homes to remove egg masses. Your plants will thank you!

They were first spotted in the United States in 2014 in Pennsylvania. Since 2014, they have spread to more than seven states including New Jersey, Delaware, and Maryland. Spotted Lanternflies are an invasive species having the potential to cause devastating damage to vegetation and agricultural businesses. Spotted Lanternflies feed on most plant species and affect businesses like vineyards, timber, and other types of farms.

In September Spotted Lanternflies began laying their eggs and they can breed in very large numbers. Recognizing their egg masses and eradicating them will help greatly in controlling the spread of these invasive pests.

What Do Spotted Lanternfly Eggs Look Like?



The size of the mass can vary, but a Spotted Lanternfly egg mass is typically about an inch long by 3/4 of an inch wide and look like light grayish splotches of mud or mortar/cement. On some surfaces there can be multiple egg masses.

Where Do Spotted Lanternflies Lay Their Eggs?

Spotted Lanternflies lay their eggs on trees mainly on the underside of branches but can also be found on man-made surfaces such as decking, brick structures, and sometimes cars.

How to Get Rid of Spotted Lanternfly Eggs?

If you notice Spotted Lanternfly eggs, it is important to remove the egg masses. Here are a few tips:

- Use a paint scraper or old credit card to remove the egg mass from the surface
- Place the eggs into a plastic bag with hand sanitizer or alcohol
- Eggs should be scraped off and removed from structures prior to their hatching in spring to reduce the spread of this invasive pest.

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

• **Encouraging News About Suicide Prevention** - You have probably seen the coverage about the recent suicide deaths of several celebrities, and of course there are thousands of people who lose their lives to suicide, and we never hear about them. That is why this development is so news-worthy. There will be a three-digit phone number that people in distress or crisis mode can use to get help. It will be a national system similar to the 9-1-1 emergency number system, and will go live in July, 2022. The 9-8-8 number will be easier to use than the current ten-digit National Suicide Prevention Lifeline number (800-272-8255), and it is expected to save many lives. There will be more information about this in **May**, which is **Mental Health Awareness Month**.

• The following article is taken from the **General Federation of Women's Clubs** (GFWC) publication "News and Notes" for February 24, 2022: "Join GFWC Affiliate Organization **March of Dimes** as they **March for Change** for mothers and babies. In 2022, the U.S. remains the most dangerous of the developed nations for having a child, especially for families of color. Too many mothers and babies face serious illness and death due to complications from pregnancy and childbirth, but March of Dimes is trying to change this by reaching out to state lawmakers and demanding **#BlanketChange**."

The #BlanketChange movement aims to eliminate racial and ethnic health disparities in care, improve access to care through expanding critical health programs and gaps in coverage, address preventable health conditions through expanding research, and more.

Join this fight by contacting your state lawmakers and asking for Medicaid postpartum extension from 60 to 12 months; newborn screening regulations that are new, improved, and uniform with federal law; and access and coverage for midwife/doula care."

- **Operation Smile** - Thank you for a donation of \$25 that was received in February!

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

I strongly urge all of our members to respond to this challenge issued by the GFWC:

All members of GFWC have been issued a GFWC Legislation Action Center Challenge. The Legislative Action Center is a powerful tool to alert you to GFWC's Public Policy issues and advocacy center. On that site you can track national bills and take direct action on issues that are germane to GFWC Resolutions. And, you will be able to directly contact your national representatives and senators. But to do that you must first sign up. Go to **GFWC.org** and look under the heading that says, "**WHAT WE DO**". Click on "**Legislation/Public Policy**" and scroll down to **Legislative Action Center**. You can fill out the information and alerts will be sent directly to your mailbox. As of the fall, New Jersey had the highest number of individual members in our region— 465 – who have signed up. If you have not done so, please consider this BEFORE June 1, 2022. It is a wonderful way to let our voices soar!

New Jersey has the highest number of participants in the region. **Wouldn't it be great if FWC had the highest number of participants in New Jersey?** Please take a few minutes and sign up.

And once you sign up, please take an additional moment while you are on the site to respond to the most recent alert encouraging Members of Congress to STOP Online Child Sexual Exploitation by passing the EARN IT Act (S. 3538, H.R. 6544), revising the legal framework governing the prevention of online sexual exploitation of children by removing liability protections for tech companies related to child sexual abuse materials.

A Note From Our President:

Since our last regular meeting, an incident took place in Bridgewater involving two youths and police. While this incident is under investigation, regardless of the eventual findings, it reminds us of the work that is still needed in our communities regarding racism; both blatant and implicit bias, as well as training for police on de-escalation tactics whenever possible. This officer holds in high regard the opportunities for club members to be leaders and advocates at the local club level, NJSFWC, and GFWC levels to address and advocate for change. A link to a taped conversation with Dr Henrika McCoy, MSW, MJ, PhD, LCSW an expert in race-based trauma, sharing her thoughts on the Bridgewater mall incident and what we as a community are facing is included. <https://www.facebook.com/NASWNJ/videos/1203258320205376> (Note – you must have a Facebook account to view.) Any members interested in a special zoom meeting on these issues, please contact me.

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



Our February book was "Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI" by David Grann. It's a true-story about the "Reign of Terror", a series of cold-blooded murders that targeted the Osage Native Americans in the 1920's. After oil was found on their land the Osage had become some of the richest people of that era and also victims of horrific crimes driven by greed and racism. As the unsolved murders increased, the newly formed Bureau of Investigations (the pre-cursor to the FBI) led by J. Edgar Hoover was tasked with solving the case. Hoover assigned Tom White, a disciplined agent who believed in justice, to lead the investigation. The actions of Agent White, and his team, helped solidify the FBI's position in American law enforcement.

NEW Daytime Book Club Forming!

Exciting news, we are forming a second book club, that will meet daytime starting in May. Ellen Junas will be leading it, and it will be either Monday or Wednesday, 3-4 PM, the third week of the month. It will probably start out as a zoom get together, and future meeting options will be discussed with the participants. It will be limited to 8-10 women, so if you are interested, please let Ellen know. Also, specify if a Monday or Wednesday is best for you. ellen.junas.att@icloud.com or text or call at 732-208-7123.

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

We will be holding a Cookie Baking Contest at our next General Meeting on March 8, 2022. There will be 3 categories to enter into:

Drop/Shaped cookies
Bar Cookies
Gluten Free/Dietary Cookies



The rules are as follows:

- Cookies must be made from scratch
- You must also bring a copy of the recipe for your cookies.
- You must bring a minimum of a dozen cookies for the contest.
- The judging will be based on various criteria including presentation, taste, recipe, along with meeting the above requirements. There will be 1st, 2nd and 3rd place ribbons for winners in each category.

If you would like to participate in the contest please email me at lisa-andreini@comcast.net; or call/text me at 732-692-3309 to let me know you are participating in the contest and in which category you are entering or have any questions about the contest.



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



Tracy Muse will be happy to take your orders now, if they are ready, so that she is not trying to compile everything on the last day. Cheesecake selections and the order form were emailed out to all members on Feb 10 and has been sent with this newsletter. Orders can be left in Tracy's mailbox @ 8 Hageman Rd (in the Wildflower Ridge development) with a **check made payable to “Franklin Woman's Club” ONLY!** Or bring your order and payment to the March 8 FWC meeting. **The deadline is March 24.**

Final orders will be submitted on 3/29/22. Pies will be delivered to Tracy's home on 4/12/22. Members MUST PICK UP PIES THAT SAME DAY unless

other arrangements are made.

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

The Special State Project is sponsoring several fundraising events for Operation Chillout!

➤ IT'S HERE!

Operation Chillout **BUNCO** Fundraiser Saturday, March 26, 1pm-4pm

VFW Edison Memorial Post 3117

53 National Road

Edison, NJ 08817

If you want to carpool, contact Phyllis Beals or Stephanie Carr

Tickets are \$20 at the door



➤ Special State Project NJFWC Northern - **Wine and Cheese Fundraiser/Raffle Baskets**
March 13, 1:30pm - Upper Montclair
Tickets \$35/\$60 for two – Deadline for reservations is March 3
Open to everyone
(See flyer sent with newsletter)



➤ **Quilt- there's still time!**

Marylou Bak has tickets for the handmade quilt being raffled to benefit Operation Chillout - \$10 for one/\$25 for 3
Bring cash or check to the meeting on March 8!

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>



March Birthdays

3/15 Caroline Lance

3/27 Ree Adler

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 Woman's Clubs around the state, check out this link to the NJSFWC's March Almanac – <https://njsfwc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/MarchALMANAC2022-Web.pdf>