

JULY 2024 SUMMER EDITION

# GFWC California Clubwoman Magazine

PUBLISHED BY THE GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMENS CLUBS  
MEMBER OF THE GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS

LOOKING FORWARD



[WWW.CFWC.ORG](http://WWW.CFWC.ORG)



# From the desk of the President



Dear Members and Friends,

The 2024 summer edition of the California Clubwoman begins an exciting time for the California Federation of Women’s Clubs. “IGNITE YOUR VOLUNTEER SPIRIT” is the motto for this Administration! My hope is that our members will embrace this and “Get Excited” about making a difference in their communities and beyond, each and every day!

Civic Engagement and Outreach is my “President’s Special Project” with emphasis on “Our Military Personnel and Veterans. The colors of “Red, White, and Blue” of our Flag and also our Federation, will be highlighted. There are so many opportunities to help and I am looking forward to working with you and learning of your projects and accomplishments.

The July Boards were held at the Ontario Airport Hotel and Conference Center earlier this month. The new CFWC Chairmen, District Chairman and District Deans reported under the direction of CFWC 1st Vice President, Wendy Curran.

The Fall Board will be in the North at the Delta Hotel Santa Clara Silicon Valley located at 2151 Laurelwood Road, Santa Clara, California, on September 12th through 14th . Cindy Sanders, CFWC 2nd Vice President, and the CFWC Area Vice Presidents will be promoting “MemberSHIP” as they begin with Ahoy! Welcome Aboard the CFWC MemberSHIP! Have fun wearing Cruise attire to celebrate the Membership Team’s Theme on Friday evening.



We are off to a fantastic start of the 2024 – 2026 Administration! Please “IGNITE” your Volunteer Spirit and join us as we “sail into the future”!

*Sonya Matthies*










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GFWC California Clubwoman is a magazine designed to inspire, educate, inform, and entertain individuals in the work of humanitarian service. It is a lifestyle magazine that features content about health, club life, culture, and community development. \*\*\* NOTE: The views and opinions expressed in the magazine in articles and Advertising are not the express views of the General Federation and should not be seen as endorsements.



### From the Editor Lu Arredondo

As I thought about our theme of Looking forward, it dawned on me that not only do we have a chance to look forward each summer, but we also have a chance to reset.

Every District, every club, every member has a chance at a reset. This past quarter we celebrated awards and the realization that our actions, our words, and our mindset (award winning or not) creates life-changing impact on those we serve, our fellow members, and within ourselves. This issue is filled with ideas and stories to help you ignite your volunteer spirit, grow your clubs, and engage members as you reset for greater impact.

# Leadership Notes



Wendy Curran  
1st Vice President  
Dean

Away we go, Looking Forward, as we start our new CFWC 2024-2026 term. Congratulations to President Sonya Matthies. This is always an exciting time as we adopt new projects to inspire us all, meet new Officers, new Chairmen.

My hope is that each of us connects with a project or idea that will help our communities – bring hope where needed, spark joy, reach out to lend a hand, share common goals with our members, and invite others to join with us.

Personally, I am amazed by members of our Federation here in California, how we together make a difference. And here in California, our Federation has been doing remarkable things every year since we were established in 1900. We have saved some Redwoods, no small feat. We have helped in local schools, often supporting a variety of projects that matter – especially when libraries needed help and that continues to this day. We help keep our California coastal beaches beautiful with beach “clean-up” days. We encourage recycling, planting sustainable trees, food drives, toys at Christmas, scholarships for graduates, knitting or crocheting blankets and hats, donating money and time to many worthy charities in our local communities and the list goes on.

So, we look forward to our challenges each year. We believe in “where there’s a will, there’s a way.” It is what we do – Looking Forward.



Cindy Sanders  
2nd Vice President  
Membership

Set Sail with the CFWC MemberSHIP Crew is the theme for the 2024-2026 administration. We are looking forward to sharing many wonderful adventures together. We are excited to welcome the members of CFWC aboard and we are ready to aweigh anchor and set sail. Our awesome crew includes Area A Vice President Nancy Jo, Area B Vice President Ellen, Area C Vice President Sandy, and Area D Vice President Martha. As we navigate the Federation seas our focus will be to continue to grow our membership and retain existing members. The tides around us are constantly changing and with it the needs, wants, and interests of our membership changes.

A good retention strategy will need to adapt and meet those challenges. Communication will be key to ensure that members feel engaged and remain committed to our amazing organization. Personal connections at the Club, State, and International levels will set our members up for success by providing a shared purpose. Is your club meeting the needs of your members? Are your meetings accessible? Do you offer a variety of projects to participate in? Do your members feel appreciated?

The MemberSHIP Crew is available to help with your recruitment and retention strategies. We invite you to attend our workshops at the September Board in Santa Clara. Please ask the Crew to attend your next club meeting or event as a guest speaker. We look forward to cruising with you as we visit many ports of call - it is all hands on deck as we set sail!



# Leadership Notes



Kelly Davis  
Arts and Culture

Art and Culture mean different interpretations to different people. I would like to write about a form of entertainment art such as. A Theatre in Oakland, California that is an Historical Landmark. The Paramount Theatre opened in 12/16/1931. It is the most ambitious theatre design of architect Timothy L. Pflueger. It was restored in 1973 and has retained an exceptional unity of style. The theatre was also listed in the National Register of Historic Places on 8/17/1973. It has 3,040 seats and is an Art Deco concert hall.

Today it hosts music concerts, ballets, plays, stand up comedy, Lectures, special events, and screening of classic movies. It is also home to the Oakland East Bay Symphony. It is famous for its exterior which features a mosaic of enormous figures. The interior of the building which features a grand lobby and a Wurlitzer organ, is quite impressive as well.

What is exceptional in your Neighborhood that would interest Your club to attend? This year I would like to present different ideas that could add to your pleasure in the Art and Culture world.

Each club has been doing a great job with helping the art and culture world of children with their fundraisers. Thank You



Anne Cochran  
Civic Engagement  
& Outreach

Start off to a great new year with some Civic Engagement ideas to look forward of focusing on our Military families, old and new, the fallen and the remembered. I will be bringing forward ways we can support, advocate and reach out to these heroes. For July lets really honor the Independence Day by unraveling the Flag and proudly display all week. Please Remember to put up at dawn and take down at dusk. This reminds us daily of the Service men and women heroes who protect our country every single day.

Over 16,000 children have lost their military or first responder parent since 9/11/2001. Learn how **Angels of America's Fallen Angels** supports these families; and, learn how you can help at [aoafallen.org/donate](http://aoafallen.org/donate).



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# Leadership Notes



Nancy B. Jones  
aka: Farmer Jones  
Environment Chair

## Sunflowers and Sustainability

Why sunflowers? They are bright and beautiful, grow easily, and remind us every day to live a low-impact lifestyle.

Why sustainability? Sustainability is based on a simple principle:

Everything that we need for our survival and well-being depends, either directly or indirectly, on our natural environment.

To pursue sustainability is to create and maintain the conditions under which humans and nature can exist in productive harmony to support present and future generations. We look forward to our next generations growing up and succeeding with thoughtful and gentle treatment of this Earth, our home.

You might have heard or seen on a T-shirt - "There is no Planet B. We have to keep this planet healthy, because it's our one and only home, our extended body," from Ban Ki-moon, a South Korean diplomat, the eighth secretary-general of the United Nations between 2007 and 2016.

As a Federation, we all need to protect our Earth every day. Over the next two years, we will explore how we can have a positive effect on our environment. We will plant sunflowers and poppies, and we will encourage habits such as recycling, composting, and low-waste living. Every member can focus and improve on their impact on this Earth that is our Home. Every club and District can find a school or community garden to support - or create one to beautify and protect our Earth.

Let's enjoy this journey together!



Kathleen Holm  
Legislation and Public Policy Chair

## Looking Forward to Linking to Legislative Action

Hi! I'm Kathy Holm from the GFWC/CFWC San Bernardino District. I'm honored to be serving as your 2024-2026 Legislation and Public Policy Chair. I am proud to be a part of an organization that has a strong history of supporting the rights of women and children, as well as affecting positive change through legislative action. I'm looking forward to "igniting your volunteer spirit" by having more members sign up for the Legislative Action Center.

Signing up for the Legislative Action Center (LAC) is as easy as 1-2-3:

- 1) Go to [gfwc.org](http://gfwc.org) and click on Advocacy on the menu bar.
- 2) Click on Get Involved. A new page will pop up titled Act Now: Use our Legislative Alerts
- 3) Under "Sign up for Alerts," fill in your email, zip code, and click on the arrow to review your information, then click save.

By signing up to the Legislative Action Center, members can help advocate on behalf of Federation. This is where our organization can successfully exercise our political influence and power to effectively make legislative changes and, ultimately, make a difference.



# WHAT MAKES A STRONG CLUB

Part II of a three part series



**When a club has forward-thinking, dedicated leaders, combined with committed, focused, and passionate members, the club will be strong and successful.**

**By Colleen Janssen  
and Cathie Petithomme**

We went to club presidents, many of whom are finishing their term, although some are continuing as president of their club, and asked, “What makes a strong club?” Their answers are varied, but each one touches on the many aspects that make their club strong.

**Carol Galley, President, Julian Woman’s Club,** “I know that our diversity in our members make our club strong. Each bring their strengths, talents, and uniqueness making our club fun and a welcome part of the community.”

**Barbara Kruegel & Ceci Garcia, Co-Presidents, Chula Vista Woman’s Club,** “Our club strives in communication, strong leadership and common interest to serve our community. Our members work together with willingness and great spirit to create a diverse and active club.”

**Bonnie Cross, President, Chatsworth Women’s Club,** “In the tough times of a downturned economy, when you cannot sacrifice your charity funds to hire speakers or entertainers, we sisters come together to share our experiences to lecture, demonstrate, entertain or lead an activity that brings us closer together.”

**Cheri Kelley, President, Norwalk Woman’s Club,** “Put the right person in the right seat on the bus. Beware of member burn out. Mentoring is important. Pair up new and seasoned members for an office or chairmanship.”

**Nettie Hershman, President, Tustin Area Woman’s Club,** “I believe it is of the utmost importance to keep your members engaged, and provide them with as much information as possible, so they feel like an important part of the club.”

## WHAT MAKES A STRONG CLUB

Continued

**Dianne Lundquist, President, Ebell Club of Irvine,** “Enthusiastic members who want to do community service is what makes the club strong.”

**Linda Rayburn & Kim Beaver, Co-Presidents, San Clemente Woman's Club,** “Active participation and involvement in meetings and the community, and members volunteering of their time and talents are all crucial to the strength and vitality of a strong club.”

**Irene Serna, President, Woman's Club of Orange,** “Welcoming & Outgoing - Create an environment that attracts new members; Innovative - Find ways to reach the next generation; Positive - Make your words positive and refreshing; and Engaging & Outgoing - Reach out to your members especially new ones.”

**Lynda Krisko, Past President, Elsinore Woman's Club,** “The most important element is the membership. Women passionate enough to step up to improve the community. These women are willing to step up to leadership positions and/or to roll up their sleeves to pitch in on projects.”

**Sandra Mahaffey, President, Victor Valley Women's Club,** “I believe two elements make a strong club. One is strong leadership (A true leader is not a searcher of consensus, but a molder of consensus...MLK). The second is the education and inclusion of each member. Each meeting I incorporate some information about the GFWC, CFWC so they know they are a part of the greater whole; either some history, notable projects or how we are organized. Each member chooses a program, and each member works that program. It is also very important for the social media to reflect each completed project so the club sees results!”

**Lisa Kaufman & Diane Campbell, Co-Presidents, Woman's Club of Carlsbad,** “What makes a club strong is the commitment from its members and their desire to achieve the mutual goal of serving the community.”

**Joyce Ward, President, Imperial Beach Woman's Club,** “As president of the Imperial Beach Woman's Club the last two years, I found the following very important: 1) Don't take things personally and exercise forgiveness; 2) A strong board is very important, but be careful of bullying; and 3) With cooperation and team spirit you can make an impact in your community.”

**Silvia Scally, President, Westlake Women's Club,** “In my experience, the following elements are crucial to develop a strong Woman's Club: Volunteers who have time to dedicate weekly hours of work, a serious commitment to help communities in need, excellence in organization and media skills, and a trustworthy personality.”

**Terri Belch, President, Lakewood Women's Club,** “The Elements that make a strong club are good leadership and great members that are willing to step up and help out in the community.”

**Susan Goldberg, President, Rossmoor Woman's Club,** “The elements that make a strong club are: 1) Members have opportunities to participate in meaningful service activities; 2) Members have opportunities to identify and learn about community issues they care about in the club; 3) Members develop leadership skills in the club; 4) Members become active at the club level and beyond; 5) There is genuine concern about the members welfare; and 6) Club meetings and activities are welcoming and inclusive.”

**Marlene Fuentes, President, GFWC Women's Club Metropolitan Los Angeles,** “Unity, Integrity and Love.”

**Tamra Feito, President, Moorpark Women's Fortnightly Club,** “Strong clubs thrive with positive leaders guiding a clear vision, members passionate about giving back though hands-on volunteerism, fundraising, and engaging activities to keep them motivated.”



## WHAT MAKES A STRONG CLUB

Continued

**Jill Drescher, President, Wasco Woman's Club,** "I think that we have to accept that our organization is always evolving and as members we are too."

**Chris Herzog, President, GFWC Las Donas Past Presidents Club,** "Club image - Community and District, signature project. Happy members - respect differences, inclusive atmosphere, united. Useful meetings - stay on time, informative. Leadership - organized, a trusted guide, financially sound. Communication - between board and membership. Intergenerational member awareness. Keeping up with the times, incorporating social media platforms with club communication. Engaged with Federation - new member installations, mini orientation, participate in District. Club longevity - pride in club history."

**Megan Martinez-King, President, GFWC Woman's Club of Cypress,** "Clear communication and organization are key, as is strong and enthusiastic leadership. However, the magic ingredient is FUN! Your membership should WANT to attend every meeting and event."

**Tamara Miller, President, GFWC La Verne-San Dimas Woman's Club,** "Strong leadership, kindness, respectful of all members, initiative to take action, caring about our communities, opportunities for fun and education, as well as involvement in service projects."

**Kay Morgan, President, Somis Thursday Club,** "Members have the opportunity to participate in the decision making at regular meetings; participate in community service activities; develop leadership skills and nurture friendships."

**Kay Porter & Mary Rocha, Co-Presidents, GFWC Woman's Club of Antioch,** "Its members, and sharing a passion for making the world a better place. Its members and sharing a passion for making the world a better place."

**Laura Lee, President, Women's Club of Hollister,** "I believe there are three elements that make a club strong: First, Evolutionary Purpose; Second, considering our members are whole people with something to contribute; Finally, implementing self-managing practices."

**Sally Bain, President, GFWC-Brentwood Women's Club,** "Members have a clear vision of the club and organization's mission and there is enough leadership and participation to carry it through. We have diversity in ages which means you have to have diversity in programs. Making sure the community knows who we are."

**Kris O'Brien, President, Lafayette Suburban Junior Women's Club,** "What makes a good club is the hard work and commitment of our members to our yearly fundraising and community service efforts. It also helps to work amongst great women!"

**Lynne Caraway, President, GFWC Anderson Women's Club, Inc.,** "Being together, sharing friendships; getting involved, doing things we enjoy as well as learning new things; encouraging teamwork and the camaraderie of working together to improve our communities."

**Cherri Fontana, President, Country Woman's Club of Campbell,** "Foster a strong club culture through active membership and enthusiastic leadership. Strong clubs thrive on dedication, collaboration, and a shared vision for the future. Active Membership: Engaged members who participate in discussions, events, and contribute to the club's goals. Enthusiastic Leadership: Leaders who are passionate about the club's mission, provide clear direction, and motivate members. Collaboration: Members working together, sharing ideas, and supporting each other's efforts. Shared Vision: A common understanding of the club's purpose and goals for the future."



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# THIS IS NOT YOUR GRANDPARENTS' BICYCLE BUILT FOR TWO

BY JUDITH YOAKUM

A casual Sunday bike ride on their secondhand tandem bike and a chance encounter with a stranger opened up the world to David and Lynette. Before meeting, both had been bike riders, David an avid lifetime rider. In fact, their first date was a bike ride from Anaheim to Laguna Beach in Southern California, a 25-mile one-way ride.

The man they encountered on their Sunday morning ride shared how he and his wife used to ride tandem and told them about Santana Adventures, "Cycling Cruises Around the World!" Trips that involve flying to a country to meet your ship, sailing and then cycling, using the ship as a home base, eliminating having to change hotels each day. The majority of participants on the trips are from the United States and Canada. Some family groups have custom made bikes to accommodate all member of the family. If there are five members of the family, the bike has five seats. If a member decides not to participate on a particular ride, one section of the bike is removed so that it now accommodates four family members.

After looking into the organization, and liking what they saw, David and Lynette had to consider traveling with an oversized/overweight tandem bike and the shipping charges to transport the bike via airline to a trip's destination. After experiencing sticker shock at the price of a new, lighter weight tandem bicycle, David and Lynette decided that they enjoyed cycling together enough to make the investment.

With enthusiasm, they registered for their first trip through Santana Adventures (<https://www.santanaadventures.com>). Unfortunately, Covid-19 happened and their trip was delayed for two years. In August, 2021, David and Lynette embarked on their first adventure, "Prague to Budapest"



These tours offer a unique way to see the world from a different perspective than most travelers, affording access to locations that other tourists might miss, while providing great exercise and health benefits to the participants.

In addition to fabulous meals, bakeries with delicious offerings throughout their tours, David and Lynette also experienced treats like fig/ricotta gelato in Santorini, there were Chocolates, traditional Cukarini cookies on the Croatian Island of Korcula, and salted cod fish cakes, egg custards and pulled pork sandwiches in Lisbon. Terrific seafood was had in Hobart and an excellent wallaby pie.

## TRIP HIGHLIGHTS:

### DANUBE:

A tour through the Pilsner Brewery in Pilsen, Czech Republic; Marionette Show in Vienna near the Schonbrunn Palace and a Fireworks show in Budapest.

### ITALY:

While locked into the petals on their tandem bike, David and Lynette experienced a fall down a hill.

# THIS IS NOT YOUR GRANDPARENTS' BICYCLE BUILT FOR TWO

CON'T

## **GREECE:**

Climbing switchbacks in Santorini, an archaeological tour in Delos, a visit to Hippocrates School in Kos together with a visit to the Acropolis.

## **TAHITI:**

Lovely Islands small enough to ride around them twice, Black pearl farm and thatch making demonstrations, and a barbeque and a fire dance on a cay. A family of four riding a quad tandem was on this trip. When a ten-year-old daughter got tired of riding, her section of the bike was simply removed to create a bicycle for three.

## **HOLLAND:**

Visited the 128 acre single refrigerated building used for the Aalsmeer Flower Auction (flowers and plants), Keukenhof Garden with 79 acres and 800 species of bulbs. Toured inside a windmill and a demonstration in the making of wooden shoes. If you go, be aware that bicycles have the right of way over pedestrians.

## **THE BALTIC:**

Arrived in Copenhagen, the starting point of le Tour de France, in time to see time trials and were able to ride on the actual track. Saw another multiple rider bike, this time a quint bike and viewed Amber from Poland, Estonian lace together with Viking runes on stone tablets in front of a church.

## **PARIS TO AMSTERDAM, RHINE AND MOSEL RIVERS:**

Viewed the end of le Tour de France riding on the concourse to Les Champs-Elysees. Were told that the reason for castles was to serve as home bases for pirates. Due to a wrong turn, they almost missed their boat.

## **ADRIATIC SEA: CROATIA, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, MONTENEGRO, SLOVENIA:**

Traveled through "No Man's Land" between Slovenia and Croatia, an area owned by no country. They viewed the location where "Game of Thrones" was filmed, and visited the historical region of Croatia together with the lavender fields and watched a sword dance troupe performance.

## **TASMANIA - HOBART TO MELBOURNE:**

Visited the Bonorong Wildlife Sanctuary and the Mariner's Museum. Held seahorses and saw Echidnas and Platypuses. Viewed Koala Bears in the wild and petted Forester Kangaroos. They took a walk at the Great Otway National Park, then rode through leafy treetops on a zipline.

## **SEINE RIVER, NORMANDY TO PARIS:**

Experienced the beaches at Normandy and WWII Memorials. Saw Bayeux Tapestry. Experienced navigating via photo geolocation. Viewed the laser Light Show on the Cathedral of Rouen and climbed to the top of Sacre-Coeur, with all the encouraging signs along the way.

## **BARCELONA TO LISBON: SPAIN, GIBRALTAR, MOROCCO, AND PORTUGAL:**

They toured the beautiful Montserrat Monastery. While viewing monkeys preening each other in Gibraltar, a monkey started preening Lynette by picking through her hair. They rode camels, shopped in Tangiers and toured the Andalusian Riding School in Jerez de la Frontera where the Lipizzaner riding horses were developed in the 16th century on behalf of the Habsburg Empire.

Got a bike? Are you adventurous? Then this unique travel experience might be for you. An opportunity to see the world, meet people from all around the globe and create memories to last a lifetime. This wild ride is definitely not your grandparents bicycle built for two.



# District and Club News



**The Dublin San Ramon Women's Club** congratulates Arlene Silvas as we celebrate her 60 years in our club in April 2024. Arlene joined in 1964 as a charter member of the Dublin Junior Women's Club. A year later, in 1965, Arlene helped form the Dublin women's club. Arlene held many roles in the Women's Club of Dublin including treasurer and president, from 1990-1991. Ultimately, Arlene created a popular crafts section. Women enjoyed blanket making, knitting, crocheting, and other crafts, all donated and raffled to support the club's outreach projects. Arlene is beloved for her sunny and friendly disposition and is a valuable and popular member of the Dublin San Ramon Women's Club. Congratulations, Arlene!!

**The Women's Club of Hollister** has prepared Comfort & Care Bundles for children in need for the past ten years. The bundles provide a bridge of essentials at one of the most chaotic times in a small person's life. The club assembles backpacks with clothing, a blanket, toiletries, a towel, school supplies, a reusable lunch bag and water bottle, a book, a flashlight, and a stuffed animal to help children cope for the first 24-hours after being placed in foster care. Items are donated by club women, blankets from Project Linus and the Pinnacle Quilters, and fundraisers.



**LaVerne-San Dimas Woman's Club** book collection in support of Area B's Federation Day book collection. We collected over 35 books that will be donated to Head Start Programs throughout our two communities.

**GFWC Women's Club of Antioch** made ABC 7 News! The club, in partnership with Bidwell Continuation High School in Antioch, and Past District President, Allison Norris has students making homemade quilts and other items that will go to kids in Bay Area hospitals and children in other challenging situations. Together they have already made and given out more than 700 comfort bags which include books, small artwork, and tiny toys with their Snug As A Bug Project.



# District and Club News

A6 OJAI VALLEY NEWS Friday, May 10, 2024

## Clubs turn officer installation into a fiesta

The Ojai Valley Woman's Club, in a joint installation with the GFWC Oak View Women's Club, held its Fiesta Installation Party at the OJAI clubhouse on May 2. Pictured, left to right: Nancy Bookstaber, Judy Murphy, Len Silvestri, Robert Connor, Suzanne Rogers, Debbie Berke, Suzanne Shaffer, Dana Williams, Jackal Gladstone, Pat Ragle, Diana Lloyd, Elaine Gonzalez. Co-Presidents Jack Bookstaber and Patsy Gonzalez, and installation officers: Elaine Arnold. Right photo, left to right: Lorraine Smith, Connie Rogers, Pat Ragle, Angie Stephens, Lorraine Kennedy, White Beauregard, President Celia Sips, and installation officers Ellen Ayres.



Ojai Valley Woman's Club and GFWC Oak View Women's Club host a joint installation and turn it into a Fiesta. It was so much fun it made it in to the local newspaper!



The Woman's Club of Vista GFWC recently celebrated their Donation Day and Scholarships Reception at the beautiful Alta Vista Botanical Gardens. The club awarded \$11,000 in scholarships to ten high school seniors from six schools, the club donated \$13,000 to eleven local non-profit organizations working with children, babies, homeless, the blind, as well as the arts and the Gardens; and, distributed \$1,900 raised from their first Autism Walk in April to four local organizations that work with Autism. LuMaya Jaimes of Tierra Caliente Academy of Arts sang two songs, in Spanish and English.

## 1941-1942 Scrapbook Returned

By Reggie Mattox & Robbin Navaaro, Hemet Woman's Club



At a recent estate sale, items were being organized, scrutinized, sorted and tagged for sale. A large, very old and tattered scrapbook was among the items. No one seemed to know where it came from, but it wound up in the hands of the John Nichols Gallery in Santa Paula, California.

After reading through some of the newspaper articles and realizing they were about the **Hemet Women's club**, the curator knew it had to be returned. But, how did it come to rest there, almost 3 hours from Hemet? One logical answer is the woman in charge of it took it with her when she moved. But why? Probably packed up by a family member not knowing its contents. It was like a time capsule that chronicled all the events, meetings and town's happenings during the 1941-1942 year. The scrapbook was sent to the Post

Office Box number listed on the club's website and it was received by the club in late March.

According to Reggie Mattox, a member of the Hemet Woman's Club, a very sweet letter, saying that he hoped they appreciated the scrapbook, was enclosed. Needless to say, the Hemet Woman's Club is very happy to have this 83-year-old bit of history back in their possession.

The members of the Hemet club want to encourage everyone to keep their eyes open for any historical gems from clubs that may be hidden away at garage or estate sales. If the club is no longer federated, the local museum would probably welcome these treasures just as our club welcomed this old tattered scrapbook.



# ROSIE THE RIVETER

BY JUDITH YOAKUM

For the past year and a half, **GFWC Peninsula Hills Women's Club** has been providing the opportunity for members and guests to join in all day charter bus tours to interesting and educational locations. On May 9th 2024, the chosen location was the Rosie the Riveter Museum in Richmond, California.

Participants were encouraged to dress in Rosie the Riveter attire to vie for a prize that was offered for the best costume. Attendees learned quite a bit about the role women played in the World War II effort. There was information about ships that were built - sometimes in only four days, lessons about the men who refused to work alongside women or minorities, and how women willingly moved across the country to work in shipyards - knowing that their war time jobs would be given back to men when the war ended.

Attendees were surprised to find out that on their bus was an original Rosie the Riveter, Stella Ergas. In 1943, Stella aged 16 and her sister Lillian aged 17 went to work at the Bethlehem Steel Yards in San Francisco. After a couple of videos about World War II and women's participation that were shown in the Rosie the Riveter Museum Theatre, a very sharp and active 96-year-old Stella told the audience how she and her sister worked on B29 airplanes. She told us that Lillian the "bucker" held plates in place while Stella the Riveter riveted them in place. It is because of men and women, ordinary Americans, who were willing to volunteer their service to their country that America's war efforts were successful.



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\$10.00 per person

Part I	August 14, 2024 6:00 - 7:30 pm	Learn key requirements, deadlines, and best practices for your club.
Part II	August 21, 2024 6:00 - 7:30 pm	Governance requirements
Part III	September 7, 2024 10:00 - 11:30 am	Open Q&A



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# SANTA CLARA WOMAN'S CLUB CELEBRATES 120 YEARS

By Judith Yoakum



On Friday, April 5, 2024, Santa Clara Woman's Club celebrated 120 years of community service with presentations and a champagne reception at their clubhouse, "The Adobe".

Honored Guests included, Lisa Gillmor, Mayor of the City of Santa Clara, City Manager, Jovan Grogan and Santa Clara Council Members represented the City of Santa Clara; Janet Stevenson of the Historic Preservation Society, Barbara Briley Beard, President of the California Federation of Women's Clubs and Toni Lima, Area A Vice President of the California Federation of Women's Clubs.

On behalf of the City of Santa Clara, Mayor Gillmor presented a letter of commendation to the Santa Clara Woman's Club, while President Briley Beard presented a certificate of recognition on behalf of the California Federation of Women's Clubs.

Santa Clara Woman's Club was founded in 1904 by 11 members. One of the founding members, Margaret Osborne, served as the club's first president from 1904 to 1912 and again from 1916 to 1935. By the end of their first year, the club had grown to 70 members.

Rejuvenating the Town Plaza was the first project. The club cleared and plowed the grounds with tools purchased for the project. Benches and fences were painted and shrubs were planted. An abundance of the club's flower, red geraniums, were also planted. Remnants of a drinking fountain that was installed as part of the project can now be found on the grounds of the Santa Clara Woman's Club Adobe.

In 1902, a founding member of the Santa Clara Woman's Club and two other women traveled to Sacramento to propose marking the old Mission Trail with mission bells at suitable intervals. State legislators agreed and in 1906 the bells were installed. When the California Federation of Women's Clubs revived the project to replace mission bells along El Camino Real, Santa Clara Woman's Club was the sponsor of the first bell of the July 12, 1996 project.

Since its founding, the club has always supported and honored veterans beginning in 1904 when they participated in the Grand Army of the Republic annual Memorial Day Service honoring Civil War Veterans.

In 1907 Santa Clara Woman's Club hosted the Grand Street Fair which featured booths representing several cultures and music by the Fifth Regiment Infantry Band.

1911 Saw the club active in the Suffragist Movement to gain the right to vote for women. In 2011 the club partnered with Santa Clara Players to celebrate the California Centennial of women's voting rights act. A play was presented and the club history was displayed at the Central Library.

After World War II, two nurses (members of the club) took refresher courses and established classes to teach home care for the sick and baby care in Santa Clara County. This resulted in Santa Clara Woman's Club creating a scholarship in nursing.

Santa Clara Woman's Club participated in the 1953 – 1963 National Park Service project to restore and refurbish Independence Hall in Philadelphia.

The club touts its craft group who knit and crochet caps, scarves and make hand tied and lap blankets making more than 1,000 items in 2023.

# SANTA CLARA WOMAN'S CLUB CELEBRATES 120 YEARS

Continued

Their work earned them an award from the California Federation of Women's Clubs. The items are donated to Kaiser chemo patients, American Legion/Disable veterans, The Salvation Army, St. Justin Community Outreach, Covenant House and Santa's Cupboard. They have created so many no-sew/tie blankets that they are running out of places to donate them.

Following presentations, the gala event concluded with flowing champagne and a multi station catered venue.

## THE ADOBE

The Santa Clara Woman's Club Clubhouse, "The Adobe" dates back to the third Santa Clara Mission Church dedicated in 1784 by Father Junipero Serra. The structure was part of thirty dwellings built by Mission Indians. The adobe dwellings were written about by English explorer Vancouver in 1792 when he visited. In the 1830's the mission lands were granted to various people. In 1840, one grant of "a house and 100 varas of land" went to Don Jose Pena. After his death in 1852, his property was inherited by his widow, Gertrudis and his daughter-in-law, Conception. After Conception's death in 1883, the property went to her her sister Magdalena and Magdalena's husband Harry Brother. Upon Magdalena's demise in 1902 her only surviving relative Thomas Brother inherited the adobe dwelling which he loved and kept in good repair. His adobe was the only one to survive the 1906 earthquake. When Thomas died in 1911, the Santa Clara Woman's Club purchased the house and the 60 by 147-foot lot surrounding it for \$350.00 in 1913. The tile roof was repaired, a dormer was removed and a wood floor was installed.

On June 24, 1914, a grand opening and dedication was held with the clubhouse decked out in red, white and blue bunting. The same decoration theme was carried out for their 120th anniversary celebration. Since then, a tile floor has replaced the wooden one and in 1958 an addition, including a meeting room, kitchen and restroom, was added.

Santa Clara Woman's Club is extremely proud of "The Adobe" and have kept the old adobe part intact and maintain it as closely as possible to its original state. The Adobe is probably the oldest surviving adobe in Northern California.





# *Sparkle. Shine. Succeed.* *2024 GFWC International Convention*

*Written by Colleen Janssen*



The pageantry, awards, business meetings, reconnections with friends, and more – it all happened during the 2024 General Federation of Women’s Clubs Convention in Chicago, June 28-July 1 at the Hilton Chicago. The theme of the convention was Sparkle. Shine. Succeed. Were you there? If not, you will want to save the date for next year’s convention.

This annual meeting of our international organization featured board elections, workshops, social functions, guest speakers, prize drawings, vendors, display tables by GFWC Affiliate organizations, a live auction, new executive committee election and installation, and so much more. The benefits of attending are numerous, and all members should experience this annual celebration.

Opening events included the Chicago River Boat Architectural Tour, offered on both Thursday and Friday, and “A Night at the Diamond Club” GFWC Illinois Welcome Banquet to get the convention off to a wonderful start.

The LEADS breakfast on Friday morning highlighted new program graduates from around the country as they enjoyed meeting alumnae.

Opening ceremonies featured pomp and tradition including the introduction of state presidents and the placing of the state flags. Special announcements of contingents from international clubs generated standing ovations by more than 700 members in attendance. The California flag was presented by California Federation of Women’s Clubs (CFWC) 2022-2024 President Barbara Briley-Beard, and 2024-2026 President Sonya Matthies.

Keynote speaker, Scott Tillema, gave a truly inspirational speech called, “Effective Communication & Navigating Difficult

Conversations.” Tillema received a standing ovation for his motivational comments. A highlight of the convention was the International Presidents 1890-2024 exhibit. Each international president’s photo, and information about her, was beautifully displayed in a main hallway for all to see, read, and enjoy. The 54 women who have led our organization since its creation are to be credited for the success we continue to enjoy.

Each day of convention meal assemblies and business meetings brought applause for the announcement of award winners.



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*Photographs by Colleen Janssen and Judith Yoakum*





Awards received by California Federation of Women’s Clubs included, in no particular order: Outstanding Achievement, Signature Program: Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention, CFWC/Marcia Willett; Signature Program Fundraising Achievement, Fourth Place, Kimberly Plater; Club Creativity, Signature Program: Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness & Prevention, GFWC Hope; Outstanding Achievement, Epsilon Sigma Omicron, GFWC California; Writing Contest Member Short Story, Honorable Mention, Pat Huffman; Hope for Justice Gold Award, Charitable Groups 2024, GFWC California; Outstanding Achievement Juniors’ Special Program: Advocates for Children; Writing Contest, Member Poetry, Carol Soliday; Club Creativity, Arts & Culture, GFWC Bonsall Woman’s Club; Second Place, Club Newsletter, GFWC Moorpark Women’s Fortnightly Club; Shot @ Life Top GFWC Fundraising State in 2023, California; and 2024 Charlotte Emerson Brown Award for Exemplary Service & Excellence in State Leadership, Barbara Briley Beard.



The final event was the installation of the 2024-2026 GFWC Executive Committee. The following officers were installed: Suellen B. Brazil, International President; Wendy Carriker, President-Elect; Jolie R. Frankfurth, First Vice President; Mary Beth Williams, Second Vice President; Dr. Susan Gettys, Secretary; Juliet Casper, Treasurer; Shannon A. Bailey, Director of Junior Clubs; and Carol Habgood, Parliamentarian. International President Suellen B. Brazil’s theme for the next two years is Educate, Engage, Empower.



Mark your calendar for June 6-9, 2025, to attend the next GFWC Annual Convention at the Omni Atlanta in Atlanta, Georgia. Details will come later this year in the emailed GFWC News & Notes publication.



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 Photographs by Colleen Janssen, Sonya Matthies, and Olma M. Oneill.





## Summer Board

A weekend filled with leadership vision, goal setting, and idea sharing. Each session helping us to Ignite our Volunteer Spirit.

If you have never been to a State Board meeting, make plans to attend the September Board meeting in Santa Clara. Your voice matters.

## *Igniting Our Volunteer Spirit*

A special thank you to Marilyn Cruz, Cindy Sanders, Colleen Janssen, and Facebook friends for the pictures



# FROM UGLY LAWS TO ACCOMMODATION

By Mickie Reed

CFWC De Anza District President

GFWC Woman's Club of Indio - Past Presiden

*National Disability Independence Day on July 26 commemorates the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) on July 26th, 1990. The day not only celebrates the anniversary of the ADA, but it also serves to bring awareness and break down the barriers individuals with disabilities face every day.*



*To understand how groundbreaking this legislation was, you must understand how the law treated the disabled in the past.*

## UGLY LAWS

**Unightly Beggar Ordinances**, later known as Ugly Laws, first popped up in San Francisco in 1867 and deemed it illegal for "any person, who is diseased, maimed, mutilated or deformed in any way, so as to be an unsightly or disgusting object, to expose himself or herself to public view." Even though these laws were touted to be a response to street beggars, they clearly targeted the disabled. These laws were punished by a fine, time in jail, but more often forced institutionalism.

Other cities, Chicago, Omaha, Columbus, Cleveland, and Portland also had similar laws. These laws were in effect until 1974, which is also the year the last arrest was made in Omaha, Nebraska. Chicago was the last city to repeal their law.

### **The Rehabilitation Act of 1973**

According to adl.org, beginning with our first disabled President Franklin D. Roosevelt, the view of the disabled slowly began to change. In the 1970s, disability rights activists lobbied Congress and marched on Washington to include civil rights language for people with disabilities into the 1972 Rehabilitation Act. In 1973, the Rehabilitation Act was passed, and for the first time in history, civil rights of people with disabilities were protected by law.

**The Rehabilitation Act of 1973** (Section 504) provided equal opportunity for employment within the federal government and in federally funded programs, prohibiting discrimination based on either physical or mental disability. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act also established the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board, mandating equal access to public services (such as public housing and public transportation services). The Act was not widely enforced, and the disabled continued to protest and participate in sit-ins.

### **American Disabilities Act**

On July 26, 1990, the American Disabilities Act (ADA) was signed into law and was expected to provide equality for the disabled in the areas of employment and access to all public buildings, services and transportation and mandated that all business provide accommodations for the disabled. Despite the ADA, stereotypes of the disabled continue to persist, and access is often still limited.

Today, on this day of ADA remembrance, please give a thought to the disabled and make every effort to make our courts accessible and usable by all our citizens.



# 20 Quaint Places to Visit in California

By Colleen Janssen



Ask your friends and neighbors, and you'll get some great ideas for cute and quaint places to visit nearby. Some are better in summer, while others are fun in fall, winter, or spring. Most have annual signature events and activities.

Some fun suggestions for a visit include Carmel-by-the-Sea, Morro Bay, Carpinteria, Oceanside, Santa Cruz, Cambria, City of Orange, Big Sur, Big Bear, Three Rivers, Murphys, Columbia, Sonora, Angels Camp, Sutter Creek, Avila Beach, Oak Glen, Mammoth Lakes, Julian, and Solvang.

Whether you are looking for an overnight visit, a romantic weekend, a few days away with your friends, or a week-long vacation, there is something for everyone. Take a look at this list and start planning your next California get-away. Search these locations online for details, reservations, and more information.

**Carmel-by-the-Sea**, AKA Carmel: The area is a popular tourist destination. Plan to visit the Carmel Mission Basilica Museum, Carmel Beach, the 17-Mile Drive, Pebble Beach Golf Links, and LaPlaya Hotel. Find Dogs of Carmel art program information on the chamber of commerce website.

**Morro Bay**: This coastal city in central California is known for its giant rock called Morro Rock. The area features hiking trails, ocean sports, golf, and the Morro Bay State Park Museum of Natural History. It's a quiet town, perfect for rest and relaxation.

**Big Sur**: If you like the mountains, this rugged area along the twisting Highway 1, has unmatched views of the ocean, along with shopping, dining, and hiking.



**Carpinteria**: Since 1912, their slogan has been, "World's Safest Beach." Located in Santa Barbara County, many visitors like the friendly camping areas, easy access to spend hours enjoying the beach, and the little shops and restaurants within easy walking distance. One unusual feature is Tar Pits Park.

**Oceanside**: The California Surf Museum is a great stop for surfers and surf-enthusiasts. Located in San Diego County, the mild weather promises year-round fun. Places to see are Mission San Luis Rey, restaurants, museums, and theaters round out the experience.

**Santa Cruz**: This central California area has beaches, downtown shopping, Santa Cruz Boardwalk with vintage rides including a 1911 carousel, cafes, and galleries.

**Cambria**: Wineries and tasting rooms, antiques shopping, Cambria Historical Museum, Covell Clydesdale Ranch, beautiful Cambria Pine trees, and great food. This is relaxation at its finest.

**City of Orange**: Located in Orange County, the vintage downtown shopping area features restaurants, shops, and is a quiet place to rest after visiting Disneyland in nearby Anaheim.

**Big Bear**: Fishing, skiing, boutiques, dining, and Big Bear Lake Village make this a popular stop year-round. The area boasts an average of 106" of snow each year, so be prepared for the weather during winter. Cuddle up in front of a warm fire and read a good book each evening.

**Solvang**: This Danish town promises excellent pastries, wineries, restaurants, charming shops, European architecture, quaint hotels, and the Solvang Festival Theater. Danish Days and Julefest draw big crowds annually.

**Three Rivers:** Located in Tulare County, stop by the Foothills Visitor Center for information about Sequoia National Park, then visit Lake Kaweah with boating, fishing, and swimming, and stop for dinner at a local restaurant.

**Murphys:** This Calaveras County get-away is a village in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. The town is known for its vineyards and wines, featuring 25 tasting rooms along Main Street. Each October the town hosts a Grape Stomp Competition and Street Fair.

**Columbia:** Founded as a boom town in 1850, this town is located in Tuolumne County. Check out Columbia State Historic Park, nearby Moaning Caverns Adventure Park in Vallecito, and Parrott's Ferry, a California Historical Landmark.

**Sonora:** Founded during the California Gold Rush, this Tuolumne County location has a historic downtown area, Dragoon Gulch Trail Head for a 2.5-mile hike through a scenic oak woodland, and Tuolumne County Museum.

**Angels Camp:** The locale of Mark Twain's famous story, "The Jumping Frog of Calaveras County." Every May, the town holds the Jumping Frog Jubilee at the Calaveras County Fairgrounds. The vintage downtown, Angels Camp Museum and Carriage House, and golf course round out your relaxing vacation.

**Sutter Creek:** Located in Amador County, this small town that grew out of the California Gold Rush, has been called the #1 Place to Retire in California. Visit Miner's Bend Park with historic displays of gold mining history, Monteverde Store Museum, Preston Castle, and other mining-related sites. Check online since most tours are held only on Saturdays.

**Avila Beach:** Visit this town located in San Luis Obispo County. If you like the beach, you will love this place. Additionally, try kayaking, relaxing at the spa, the mineral hot springs, hotels, dining, Avila Beach Central Coast Aquarium, hiking and more.



**Oak Glen:** Located in the San Bernardino Mountains, you can enjoy restaurants, farms, antique shops, oak Glen Preserve, and apple-picking in September through mid-October.

**Mammoth Lakes:** Year-round fun including hiking, boating, kayaking, paddle boarding, fishing, biking, sightseeing, skiing, snowboarding, snowshoeing, beautiful fall colors, and more.

**Julian:** Tourists and visitors enjoy this small town in San Diego County. When visiting, it is pretty much mandatory to stop for some apple pie. Other activities include visiting galleries, Julian Back Country Quilt Trail, picnic sites, hiking, boating, fishing, horseback riding, and orchards. This town can be quite hot in summer and cold in winter, but worth the trip.

In addition to the places mentioned here, you may want to poll your friends and family for some of their favorite get-away spots. **Where will you go next?**







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