

Tidbits



August 2020 — Vol. 27 Issue 0 Special Edition

Monthly Newsletter of the GFWC Woman's Club of West Deptford • PO Box 381 • Thorofare, New Jersey 08086 • <https://wdwomen.com>

This is a very short special edition of Tidbits. If you sent something that's not here, watch for it in September.

NEXT MEETING

August 11, 2020, 6:30 pm

In the parking lot at St. Paul's,
74 Church St., West Deptford

July-August Birthdays

7/12 Tannis 7/30 Jo S.
7/24 Patty W. 8/13 Robin

COLLECTIONS

- ♥ Nancy B: Used Fitbits for Rowan Special Olympics swim team; unexpired canned goods for Colonial Manor Food Pantry; clean used sheets, towels & bedding for Gloucester County Animal Shelter
- ♥ Clara: Old cell phones, wallets, tools, keys, credit cards/used gift cards, bags & suitcases for K-9 training
- ♥ Linda M./Janice: Monthly collection for SERV—See Domestic Violence article
- ♥ Carla: Boxtops for Education
- ♥ Joan/Dorothy: Feminine hygiene products & coupons for feminine products for Greater Woodbury Area Cooperative Ministries
- ♥ Debbie H. & Cynthia: Household items & food for South Jersey Dream Center

Woman's Club of West Deptford

Member of General Federation of Woman's Clubs (GFWC), New Jersey State Federation of Woman's Clubs (NJSFWC), Garden District of NJSFWC.

President: April Maska
Membership: Cynthia Holmes-Butler
Info: membership@wdwomen.org



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

April Maska

Happy August!!!! Wow! Summer is half over, and we are all thinking about what the Fall Season has in store for all of us. As we continue to Social Distance and take care of ourselves as well as our families, we can't help but wonder what the next few months will bring. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you as we move forward during these unprecedented times.

Like you, I have been following the daily reports on how the State of New Jersey is moving forward and what that means for us as a club during Covid-19. I have been in contact with the Library and they will not be allowing anyone to use the meeting room in the foreseeable future. Of course, things change every day, but as we try to be proactive, we will do what we can.

Why have an August meeting? Well, we could not meet in April, May or June inside or outside. As of right now we will not be meeting for the next few months in the library either. So...to take advantage of Daylight Savings and being allowed to meet with over 50 outside with Social Distancing, an in-person August and September meeting at St. Paul's is a perfect way to meet and move forward as a club. I would love to do October as well, but it may get too dark or cold. If things do not open up by then, we will be going to Zoom meetings through to the New Year.



This will be a short message as we prepare for our Socially Distanced, Outdoor August WCWD General Meeting on August 11th at 6:30 pm at St. Paul's Methodist Church. For this meeting, please bring your own chair and water. We will not be allowed in the building so restroom facilities will not be available. There will be a microphone available so even with sitting 6 ft. apart, we will be able to hear each other. I totally understand if there are members who are uncomfortable meeting and I will share a full agenda after the meeting to keep you informed. So many of you have reached out to say they will definitely be at our meeting and I can't wait to see as many of you as are able to come.

The Board met at Donna B.'s home in her lovely backyard with Social Distancing and we were able to get a lot of things accomplished which we can't wait to share with all of you. We want to recognize all of you for all you have done with so many of our projects since April. Because of you, 63 Christmas Stockings are ready for delivery as soon as we get a drop off date. Our DVD, CD, VHS collections was a fantastic success and what was collected was delivered to Manor Care in WD. Our donations to the Dream Center, Seeds of Hope, Angels of God, Catholic Charities and more have been amazing. Our participation in Operation Chillout has also been a very successful activity for the summer. More information on the Fall collections will be

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President's Message, continued

forthcoming. We also have a couple fundraisers planned which we will discuss at our August meeting.

I will be sharing our awards from the NJSFWC as well as other recognitions. We have so much to talk about and plan for the future. Thank you all for your continued support and dedication to our club and our mission to help others in our community and beyond.

Stay safe, hydrate, and enjoy the rest of your summer. I can't wait to see many of you on August 11th.

Warmly,
April

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Linda Jones

Fundraiser for September

Michael William Florist & Greenhouse will provide us with mums at his wholesale price and offer the opportunity for our club to increase monies put into our operating account.

At our August club meeting, please pick up and take home a flyer showing pictures of eight mum colors with a voucher sheet to list all your sales. We encourage orders from family, friends, and neighbors. The price is \$7.00 each for a medium-size pot with checks made out to the Woman's Club of West Deptford. The pick up dates at Michael William greenhouse are Saturday and Sunday, October 3rd and 4th.

We sincerely appreciate your help with this internal fundraiser and thank you for your support!!

NEWS TIDBITS

Club Members

The following are important items that can't wait until September. If you sent something in that doesn't appear here, watch for it in September. This will include Secret Pal Notes & Newsy Notes.

Basket Raffle Fundraiser

Nancy B. and Nancy D. will co-chair our Basket Raffle Fundraiser. A date and contract have been confirmed for Tuesday, April 20, 2021. They are embarking on a new and easier way to prepare for our largest fundraiser while meeting COVID-19 concerns. This new event will have many different components designed to ease the long-term efforts of each club member.

As suggested, we will prioritize each member-donated basket to items which represent a particular chosen "theme" and add unique ways to wrap each basket and make it attractive. We will also have approximately eight months to shop for sales on items to fill our baskets. Pictures, suggestions, and a list of possible themes will be available at our August club meeting. Please decide if you would like to donate your own basket or work with another person to contribute jointly to a certain "theme." (We won't be collecting individual small items to collate into wicker baskets a week before our event.)

Linda J. and Elaine R. will stage/arrange your new/purchased items, cut tags off if needed, and wrap each basket with a bow. Due to COVID-19, all items need to be new and not re-gifted. There are sanitary concerns especially with lotions, potions, and food items that need to be in their original

packaging and sealed. Elaine R. and Linda J. will strive to jointly wrap five to ten baskets per month as members ready them well in advance of our event evening. Each member needs to include a list of the items enclosed in their basket. (There is no suggested amount to spend on your basket.)

Nancy and Nancy will provide further information/details as to the solicitation of donations from businesses and gift cards. We are in the preliminary stages of this fundraiser and thank everyone for their assistance as we navigate a new way to proceed with our new event project.

Special State Project: Operation Chillout— Homeless Veterans Outreach

Jeannette Wood, Cheryl Fairchild

THE 2020 SUMMER HOMELESS OUTREACH CAMPAIGN CONTINUES UNTIL LABOR DAY. The collection is for life-saving cases of bottled water, new t-shirts and caps for homeless veterans, men and women. Because of COVID-19 restrictions this is entirely online.

The donors have met the goal for t-shirts and caps but bottled water is still in great demand. If you would like to donate water, go to the website, www.operationchillout.org where there is a registry for donations. Three cases of bottled water cost \$10.

Small Note Cards can still be made and mailed to Operation Chillout, P.O.Box 353, Long Valley, NJ 07853.

A special thank you to all members who have donated already. Our club donated 21 cases of water, 12 t-shirts, 14 hats, and 20 notecards.

If you donate, please let us know how much and your volunteer hours. Thank you again.



BOARD MEETING

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Family Promise of Southwest New Jersey Project

Jeannette Wood

If you would like to support this project this summer, you can purchase new 21" or larger duffle bags for the homeless families at the day center. The duffle bags are used to carry their clothing when they stay at sponsor churches. Let me know if you have a duffle bag and I will come pick it up then deliver it.

Thank you so much for your continued support to help the homeless in our community!

Health and Wellness

Chris Taylor, Linda Marple, Carol May

We will be handling any food, clothes, supplies that help the health of adults and children. This includes Christmas families (Linda Marple) and the donor cards (Carol May).

For Seeds of Hope we have made 110 lunches (\$600), collected 30 lbs of shoes, 4 bags of capris, and 4 bags of sweat-shirts. We have all been busy this summer helping those affected by the pandemic!

From Cynthia: The Dream Center is low on donations now. Please help if you can. Last week they told Peg they were helping a couple out of work. The wife has hearing issues and the husband broke his neck. Please contact Peg to drop off at her house by Wednesday AM.

**** We will be collecting food at our meeting on August 11. Please bring your food donations!**

School Supply Collection

Joan Baur

An annual club summer project is a school supply collection for the GWCM Lunch Box clients. Check out the sales and choose something to donate. Suggestions: backpacks, spiral notebooks (wide and college ruled), binders, notebook paper, composition books, crayons, colored pencils, erasers, scissors, glue sticks, pencils, etc. Contact Joan for info.

Domestic Violence Awareness & Prevention

Linda Marple, Janice Morrison

During the Pandemic and the quarantine and sheltering at home, there has been an increase in Domestic Violence calls to hotlines around the country and SERV in Gloucester, Camden counties is no exception. As has been reported, volunteer advocates are not being activated at this time. All calls are being made by staff.

However, there is something we have been asked to do and you can, too. We are writing survivor letters to victims. These are letters to help cheer and encourage the survivors. If you would like to participate, let Linda know and she will give you the script for the letters. Then you would get the cards back to Linda. A staff member would pick them up from her. Linda will have scripts at the August meeting at St. Paul's.

Arts & Culture

Linda Jones, Peggy Grady

CARDS FOR KINDNESS is part of our "Adopt A School" Community Impact Program and the club art department. We have crafted packets of 90 thank you cards ready and waiting to glue together and give to each elementary teacher when schools are in session once again. We cannot meet at the library to construct these cards so we are asking some of our ladies to take home a packet or two along with a glue stick and assemble the front cover of each card. Then, please return them to Linda Jones within a week so that the inside message can be attached. The packets can be picked up at our August club meeting.

We will thank the elementary teachers for their continuing and difficult task of educating the children in our community through telecommunications as we wish them well when school reopens. Many thanks from Peggy and Linda. ☺



Civic Engagement and Outreach

Donna Blocher

Our project has come to an end with the exception of the tweaking of the total amount spent and total number of volunteer hours. See below what you accomplished to date when tending to Christmas in July. Thanks to all for your generosity!

Number of Stockings... 63
Stockings: 37 gender neutral; 26 female
Amount spent on items. \$1621.87
Number of volunteer hours...209.5

Book Club

Jody Harris, Holly Revelas, Dorothy Allen

Here are the suggestions for the next woman's club book discussion:

1. The Other Einstein by Marie Benedict
2. Behind Closed Doors by B. A. Paris
3. Love in the Time of Cholera by Gabriel Garcia Marquez
4. The Family Upstairs by Lisa Jewel

Possible Dates: Wed. 9/16, Thurs. 9/17
Wed. 9/23 Thurs. 9/24. If you are interested, please send your vote for book and date in to Jody & Dorothy.

Club Service Hours

Linda Jones

Thank you ladies! We are a wonderful club of fifty great members who volunteer and continue to contribute many working hours toward various club projects and activities. At this time I am recording individual hours spent by each member onto a chart covering January to July.

A majority of our ladies still need to simply give me a number of hours that you engaged in each month for our club. At our next meeting I can give you a reminder list of over forty projects to help you estimate volunteer hours for the last six months.

Please return your monthly calendars since January, or tally totals of time spent on club projects. We need this in order to fulfill data when report writing to the New Jersey State Federation. Thanks so much from Linda, and April too!!