

## GFWC Arizona Clubwoman



### President's Message



It's been an active first quarter for 2025. Now that all the reports are in and my travel is finished for the quarter It's time to complete the plans for our 2025 state convention in Tucson. I have attended four club meetings, all three District meetings and served on the GFWC 2026 Convention Steering Committee.

We are meeting with committee chairmen at each of our meetings to go over ideas and plans. I look forward to the convention and, of course, our Arizona State Night.

Central District had BACA Bikers Against Child Abuse. Nytro gave an informative talk. They also shared their motorcycles with the Cherry Blossom Juniorettes and the Board members. A fun experience on a Harley.

Southern District hosted the Southern Arizona Diaper Bank. Jason Zibart, from the Benson Hospital shared information about the bank and the people who need it's help. Mr. Zibart has contacted other hospitals and helped set up diaper banks with them. It is a great help for people to have a diaper bank closer to their home. A large donation of diapers and cash was given.

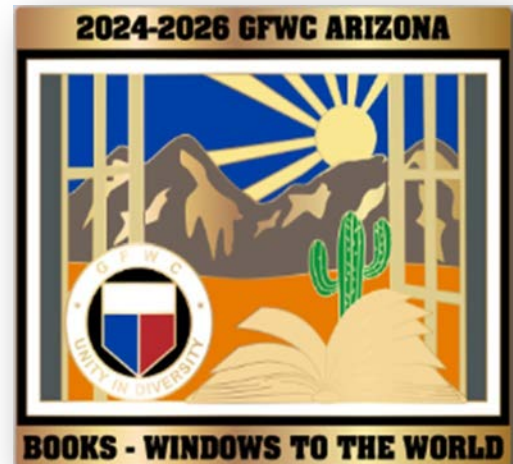
Southwestern District donated to a Peace Trail Rescue with many bags of dog food, blankets, towels and toys. Kimberly Petra spoke of the need for rescuing dogs that had been dumped in the desert. She currently has twelve dogs, two cats, chickens and a potbellied pig. She offers the opportunity to expand your pet household.

I am so proud of our efforts towards expanding literacy in our state. Our donations are four times over last year and our in-kind donation have also increased.

Thank you to all of you for your great ideas, hard work and dedication to GFWC, our State, your clubs and communities. You are all shining examples of teamwork and commitment.

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### GFWC-AZ Newsletter Deadlines Submission

Email articles by the deadline to : Judy Whetherhult at [jawhetherhult@gmail.com](mailto:jawhetherhult@gmail.com)

| Deadline           | Publication Date | Deadline          | Publication Date |
|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| November 15, 2024  | December 1, 2024 | November 15, 2025 | December 1, 2025 |
| March 15, 2025     | April 1, 2025    | February 15, 2026 | March 1, 2026    |
| June 15, 2025      | July 1, 2025     | June 15, 2026     | July 1. 2026     |
| September 15, 2025 | October 1, 2025  |                   |                  |

Please include any pictures that you want published along with the article that it goes with in the same email. If you have any questions or need help with an article, you can reach me at 520-419-9399.

I am honored to be your Communications/Public Relations Chairman for the 2024-2026 term working with you and publishing your amazing articles. I have seen the incredible way that you work with and help in your communities. Your loving and caring spirit shows who we are as GFWC members. I am excited to see what your clubs do over the next two years.



## GFWC Arizona Women's Clubs:

Throughout the state of Arizona, your volunteer service is evidenced by the many ways you make a difference in your towns and cities. I know there are many husbands/partners supporting your work through countless "Volun-told" directives.

Several years ago, the GFWC AZ Booster club was formed to show support for your endeavors. We are always looking for additional members.

Dues are \$20. We hope to meet at the state convention in May, in Tucson. If you are interested, please feel free to contact me.

The GFWC International Convention will be held in Scottsdale, in June of 2026. We would like to have our club in attendance supporting the event, and the Arizona clubwomen who are bringing this convention to the organization.

Sincerely,

Rex W. Post, President

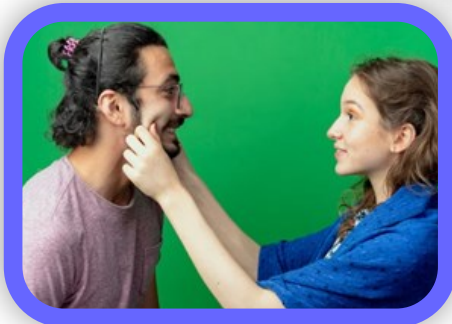
GFWC AZ Booster Club

Rwp602@aol.com

# Communications

**Our facial expressions, gestures, and body language can, and often do, say more than our words. Nonverbal cues can have between 65 and 93 percent more impact than the spoken word.**

**Facial**



**Eye Gaze**



**Hand Gestures**

David Matsumoto: Micro expressions are unconscious, extremely quick, sometimes full-face expressions of an emotion. And sometimes they're partial and very subtle expressions of emotion. But because they're extremely quick and because they're unconscious, when they occur, they occur often times less than half a second – sometimes as fast as one-tenth of a second or even one-fifteenth of a second. Most people don't even see them. Some people do see them but they don't know what they're seeing. They see something that has changed on the face, but they don't know exactly what was changed





## GFWC Arizona Arts and Culture



As our Arizona weather warms, spring is in the air, flowers will be blooming, and summer vacations are coming. Let us turn some of our attention to all the beauty that surrounds us. I have a few ideas of how to enhance and celebrate our spring and summer with the arts.

☐ Do you have a Little Library near you in your community? If you don't, why not have your club sponsor and create one. <https://littlelibrary.org> Roll up your sleeves, pull out those tools and build a creative Little Library for your community. Think of all the great summer reading.

☐ During the summer months many local parks will hold summer camps for children. Why not involve your club in being a part of these camps. With budget cuts many of these camps will need assistance in purchasing art supplies and maybe someone with craft talent.

☐ Many libraries have display cases and will let community organizations utilize them. Clubs could put together a display of all the wonderful art projects and programs the club supplied to the community. This could also be a membership opportunity if club brochures were provided.

☐ Donate art books to school libraries or the public library.

☐ Do you have a local laundry mat? Create a cozy little arts corner with crayons, colored pencils, and coloring books to help pass the time while the laundry is being washed and dried.

☐ Hold an art recycling program. It is amazing what wonderful creations can be made with simple items like cans, paper towel rolls, corks, jars, and so much more. There are ideas galore on the internet.

☐ Hold a club meeting to create jewelry and Mother's Day cards for military wives at a local military base.

☐ There is so much local musical talent, your club could help sponsor a Battle of the Bands. Work with the local park services to reserve a time and location to hold the event and invite the public. This is another opportunity to interest local women to join your club.

☐ We all take pictures so why not hold a photography night. Members could share their favorite photos and memories. This is also a good opportunity to find all those perfect pictures for the GFWC Photography contest.

☐ Mother's Day at nursing homes can sometimes be very lonely, so why not make the day special with small gifts and centerpieces for the ladies in residence.

These are just a few ideas to help your clubs be a little craftier, in touch with the arts on a personal level, and add a splash of culture in your communities. Have a wonderful Spring and summer.

Rosalie A. Dialessi

GFWC-AZ Arts and Culture Chairman





## **GFWC - AZ      TAKE ACTION NOW!!!!**

GFWC is into a new year and Congress is reconvening. NOW is the time for our TWC members to sit up and take action on some of the important legislation coming before Congress for approval. And it can happen with our input to our AZ. Congressmen! GFWC is fortunate to have a powerful legislative ally in the **Legislative Action Center**.

Listed are some of the pending Congressional bills GFWC will be supporting:

- Eliminate Out-of-Pocket Costs for Supplemental Breast Cancer Screening
- Protect Funding for Victims of Crime
- Tell Congress You Support Vaccines for All
- Support Alzheimer's Patients and Caregivers
- Support the Elizabeth Dole Home Care Act (expand services to veterans & their caregivers)
- Support the REPORT Act and Online Child Safety Act
- Shot@Life: Support for Global Immunization Programs in FY25
- Build the Women's Suffrage Monument on the National Mall

How do we accomplish this? Sign up with the **Legislative Action Center**

[www.votervoice.net/GFWC/home](http://www.votervoice.net/GFWC/home)

You will get emails asking for your support of a certain bill. The letter is already written; you approve it and off it goes. You will also receive by email feedback from your legislators that receive it. So simple and easy, and shows our support in Congress for legislation important to GFWC.

Please help GFWC- AZ climb the Legislative Ladder..... **THANK YOU!**

Michele Brown

GFWC-AZ Legislative Chairman





**2025 GFWC-AZ Education and Libraries  
Community Service Program Report  
Leslie Brown, Chairman**

**GFWC Writing Contests:**

GFWC Members & Youth K-12

It's not too early to start thinking about the GFWC Writing Contest!

Educate, Engage, and Empower members and school communities through self-expression.

Foster community spirit, talent, and growth as writers!

Write a short story or poetry; Tell a story, express your thoughts, and share your voice. These GFWC Contests are open to club members and youth in grades K-12.

Albert Einstein says, "Creativity is Intelligence Having Fun." So... Start Having Fun!!

Submit your original writing, either a short story or poetry, to Leslie Brown, GFWC-AZ Writing Contest Chairman by February 13, 2026.

**For more information, please refer the 2024-26 GFWC-AZ Club Resource Book under Folder J – JO8 GFWC -AZ Creative Writing Contests. OR Contact Leslie Brown, GFWC-AZ Education & Libraries Chairman - [lesliepvjr@cox.net](mailto:lesliepvjr@cox.net)**



**Project Idea –  
Get Caught Reading**

**May is Get Caught Reading Month!**

It is an annual celebration that promotes the joy and benefits of reading. It's a fun way to encourage children to develop a love for reading and emphasizes the excitement and pleasure of being absorbed into a good book. There is still time to plan to "Get Caught Reading".

There are many ways you can get involved. Share photos of yourself reading on social media, organize reading events at schools or libraries, or simply make a conscious effort to read more throughout the month.

Have a well-known community member get involved. Perhaps your Mayor, Elementary School Principal, or some other local "celebrity." Connect with your school or public library to partner or hold the event at their location.

**MORE PROJECTS IDEAS**

- Read Alouds – book read, craft activity related to book, & book distribution
- Scholarships – graduating senior, woman returning to school later in life, HOBY
- Prom Clothes & Accessories Collection and Donation
- U.S. Flag Education and Distribution – to classrooms
- Free Little Library – neighborhoods, shelters
- Ornaments for Teachers - ornaments with teacher needs/wishes are hung on holiday trees around town for community to "adopt"
- Treasurers for Teachers – Donation to the Supply Store
- Volunteer at Local Library
- Sewing Lessons – for younger girls
- Barbers & Books
- Neighborhood Book Collection – books then donated to shelters, Little Libraries, families in need.
- Dolly Parton Imagination Library Program



**GFWC Women's History and Resource Center: Federation Day, April 24**  
**The quality of an organization is determined by its leadership.**

The history of the General Federation of Women's Clubs is a storied pattern of clubwomen who labored through the years to establish clubs, to envision their possibilities, and to bring these visions to fruition. The organization of the General Federation in 1890, was the banding together of women's clubs which had been in existence for many years. At the invitation of Jane Cunningham Croly, women came from the North, South, East and West, for a three-day ratification convention, April 23-25. With the adoption of the Constitution on April 24, 1890, the General Federation of Women's Clubs was born.

Today, clubs are encouraged to celebrate April 24, as Federation Day. Do you need an idea for 2025?

1. Use Federation Day as an opportunity to inform your community about GFWC history and its impact on women's history.
2. Research and write/update the history of your clubhouse.
3. Support GFWC with a donation to the 1734 Society. All donations to this fund go to support improvements to the historic GFWC Headquarters building.
4. Ask members to share their favorite GFWC service project.
5. Coordinate a donation drive for a local shelter, food pantry or women's shelter.
6. Have a "Did You Know?" quiz at the April meeting. Use historical facts of GFWC.

The **GFWC** story has been told before; but it should be told again and again. It is truly an American heritage, a portion of social history that has had a definite impact in our country.

Celene Post, AZ  
WHRC Chairman



## Parliamentary Procedure 1.0

### The “WHY” of Parliamentary Law

Parliamentary law is simple in principle. It is based largely on mere common sense and courtesy. It seems technical because it has been necessary to develop a special vocabulary for discussing it. If one knows the vocabulary, the rules come easily.

### The “Purpose” of Parliamentary Law

To enable an assembly to transact business with speed and efficiency.

To protect the rights of each individual.

To preserve a spirit of harmony within the group.

To achieve these purposes, always consider the five basic principles of parliamentary procedure.

Only one subject may claim the attention of the assembly at one time.

Each proposition presented for consideration is entitled to full and free debate.

Every member has rights equal to every other member.

The will of the majority must be carried out, and the rights of the minority must be preserved.

The personality and desires of each member should be merged into the larger unit of the organization.

Have some Parliamentary Fun with this little quiz. See, even Parliamentary Procedure can be fun!

There are only 4 questions and you can pick what answers you think are correct.

Robert’s Rules were drafted by:

Brigadier General Henry Robert

Julia Roberts

US Supreme Court Justice John Roberts

During the running of a club meeting the following statement: *“It has been moved and seconded that we have a mandatory chocolate dessert at each meeting”* refers to:

Bylaws

Protocol

Parliamentary procedure

Bylaws help a club to:

Keep control of club members

Ensure that every member is heard

Regulate and govern itself

Conflict, while often avoided, can be good for a club when it:

Encourages open-mindedness

Rids clubs of difficult members

Creates opportunities and can lead to new ideas

### Answers:

a. Brigadier General Henry Robert wrote his book in 1876. It has been revised many times.

c. Parliamentary Procedure

c. Regulate and govern itself

a. & c. (This one was a trick question as two answers are correct)

How did you do? 1 out of 4-club level; 2 out of 4-district level; 3 out of 4-state level; 4 out of 4-You are in the running to be the next GFWC-AZ Parliamentarian.





## GFWC's Measles Mission with Shot@Life

GFWC-AZ is well on its way to raising \$1600.00 to do our part in raising \$80,000, the total goal for GFWC and Shot@Life. So far in the 2024-2026 project Arizona has raised **\$870**, we are ranked 5<sup>th</sup> nationwide. By raising \$80,000 during 2024-2026, clubwomen will be protecting 16,000 children from measles.

### **In the News: Do you need a measles booster? Here's what experts say**

Measles cases are popping up across the US, especially in areas with lower vaccination rates. Experts say it's a good time for everyone to [think about their immunity to the virus](#)

There were 285 cases reported in the US last year. And cases have already emerged in 2025: Two cases of measles were detected in [metro Atlanta](#) last week; this week, one case was confirmed in [New Mexico](#), and an outbreak in [West Texas](#) is growing, with [24 cases](#), according to the state health department. Cases have also been identified in Alaska, Rhode Island and New York City.

GFWC-AZ has its own website for the Measles Mission with Shot@Life: <https://fundraise.unfoundation.org/team/588116>

You and your Club can make a donation right there and watch us get closer to our goal.

Don't want to donate on line: please make the check payable to: the United Nations Foundation, and put Shot@Life in the memo line, send it to the United Nations Foundation, 1750 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Ste. 300, Washington, D.C. 20006.

To ensure your club receives credit for your donation, send a note to Shot@Life Champion Dianne Maki-Sethi [dianne@makisethi.com](mailto:dianne@makisethi.com) with your Club's information.

Let make all Arizona Clubwomen Shot@Life Champions - For only \$5, a child can receive the two doses they need to be protected against the disease for life. We need your help to get these lifesaving vaccines to children wherever they may be.



**Dianne Maki-Sethi**  
**Shot@Life Champion**  
**1451 E Calle Mariposa, Tucson, AZ 85718**  
[dianne@makisethi.com](mailto:dianne@makisethi.com)

# GFWC-AZ Club Highlights

## Glendale Woman's Club



**GWC Initiation ceremonies.** We held two initiation ceremonies in February, one day and one night. For the evening event we invited the Cherry Blossom Juniores Club. Pictured 2nd VP end VP Grace Kobjek, Club member juniores advisor Yolanda Camacho, 3 Juniores with Club members Taylor, Laura, and Yolie.

In January the club's Habitat 4 Humanities/ Little Libraries program delivered to 6 homes at once in Tempe, Az. Glendale WC provides a little library with at least 25 books to every Habitat home built in Maricopa County. Club members left to right Grace Kobjek, Joan Mertens, Maribel Saucedo-Johnson, Cheryl Kappes, Marsha Jones



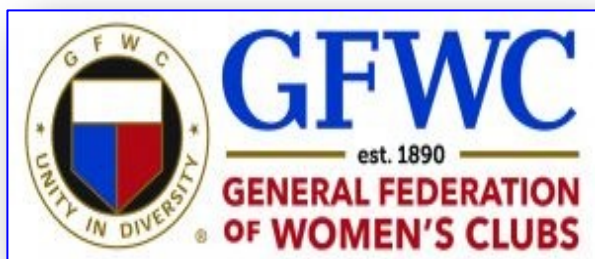
**Town Hall**-Glendale City Council member Lupe Conchas organized his 1st town hall of the year with fellow club member-Senator Analise Ortiz. The house was packed, great conversation and guest speaker Jeff Taylor-Salvation Army.



## GFWC-AZ Club Highlights

### Glendale Woman's Club

**Showing off our GFWC Brand,** We had 2 marketing events in February. We had tables at Dog Days of Glendale and Girls Get IT.







**GFWC**  
est. 1890  
**GENERAL FEDERATION  
OF WOMEN'S CLUBS**

## GFWC-AZ Club Highlights

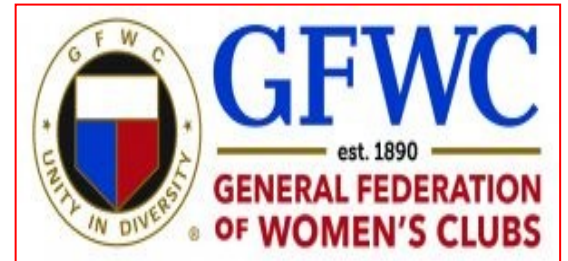
### The GFWC Cherry Blossom

**Juniorette Club** members enjoyed a sit on the motorcycles of the BACA, Bikers Against Child Abuse, the speakers at the March 8th convention. The young ladies were impressed with the mission of the organization and asked a lot of follow up questions while driving home. The convention was an overall wonderful experience for the group.



The GFWC Cherry Blossom Juniorette Club members planted roses in front of the GFWC Glendale Woman's Club clubhouse in February. The Juniorettes wanted to do something for the club for being their sponsoring club. They planted several pink rose bushes as the pink rose is the club's flower.

## GFWC-AZ Club Highlights



**The GFWC Peoria-West Woman's Club** have been very busy constructing bunny favors for our Veteran's at U.S. Vets. 105 favors were filled with candy for them. This is a small thing to do for our wonderful veterans





## GFWC-AZ Club Highlights



### The Tucson Woman's Club

**Ronald McDonald House** invites groups to supply and prepare nutritious meals for their guests. With the Chef for a Day program, each meal prepared by volunteers, helps the Ronald McDonald House reduce their expenses by \$500-1,000. On October 24, 2024, six TWC members arrived with groceries in hand and prepared a nutritious meal for 40 guests. In just 2 hours, we created a large fruit bowl and green salad, paired with chicken tetrazzini, garlic toast and black forest cake for dessert! Start to finish, this project reported 35 volunteer hours. Seeing tired, emotionally exhausted families arrive for dinner and find a delicious home cooked meal already prepared, hot and ready to eat was a truly rewarding experience!



**Veterans Rescue Mission Walk-a-Thon** was held on Veterans Day weekend (November 9, 10, 11) to raise awareness for Homeless Veterans living on the streets of Tucson. Over 25% of the homeless are veterans, 40% homeless veterans are from broken homes, 46% become drug addicted after becoming homeless, 22 Veterans commit suicide each day! Our mission was to engage the homeless and offer assistance and hand out hygiene bags on behalf of the Veterans Rescue Mission.

Three TWC members participated in the actual walk, while others members assisted with camp set-ups.

With our backpacks full of outreach bags, we began our walk at the Veterans Rescue Mission. We walked along railroad tracks and into the tunnels where the homeless set up camps and lived unprotected from the elements. Walking 18 miles, we set up camp at Zion City Church parking lot on Ruthrauff. After dinner we slept in tents unprotected as many homeless do.

Walking 14.5 miles the 2nd day, stopping at Bethel Baptist Church off Plummer Ave. We slept inside to experience what it felt like to be in a shelter. The final day we had only 5.5 miles to reach our destination at the VA. With the mission complete. We had spent three days living on the streets of Tucson, walking 38 miles, engaging multiple groups of homeless people offering assistance and searching for Veterans in need of assistance. There is so much more work to be done to assist those who have served our country!



**Valentine Card for Veterans** Done in a Day workshop was held on February 5th. Eight TWC women created 50+ red, white and blue Valentine cards thanking Veterans for their service. Three club members designed and prepared card kits in advance. The day of the 2 hour workshop, the ladies assembled and personalized each card with a sentiment. Cards were delivered to the V A Hospital on 6th Avenue on February 11th, just in time to be delivered to veterans in the hospital on Valentine's Day! The volunteers at the hospital were thrilled to have these homemade cards to deliver to patients on a special day. All they had to do was add a name on the envelope and inside the card!

## GFWC-AZ Club Highlights



**Rock Painting Done-In-A-Day** workshop was held October 23, 2024 for Banner Pediatric Cancer Center. Twelve ladies gathered to paint rocks for the children. They painted 70 rocks with positive messages or pictures to encourage smiles. It was reported that the children were really excited to receive the rocks! This project reported 32 volunteer hours and \$51.00 for In-Kind donations.

**Massing of the Colors** was hosted by **The Tucson Woman's Club** on November 3, 2024. This is a free, annual and open to the public. TWC donates the use of the auditorium and stage for this honorary event.

Massing of the Colors is a patriotic ceremony to honor the American Flag and those who have served our country in the armed services. Many Color Guard Units and other patriotic organizations present their flags, distinguished speakers are present to honor our servicemen and women. The stage was filled with an orchestra and soloists that performed military songs. There were also various presentations.

Tucson Woman's Club was presented with a prestigious award! Lt. Col (Retired) Marlon Ruiz, USAF presented "The Bronze Patrick Henry Organizational Award" to TWC for their unwavering dedication to the ideals of the Military Order of the World Wars and for providing the ceremonial event venue for many years, helping to cultivate cherished memories and honor those who served.



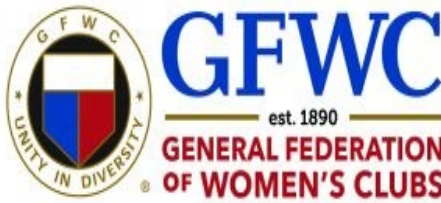


## GFWC-AZ Club Highlights



**President Sue Shipley** joined the members of **GFWC Desert Jade WC** and their guests for a cooking demonstration on how to make Chinese dumplings. Thank you to Club President Grace Lee and Brenda Fung for demonstrating the techniques in how to fold the round wrappers into fancy shapes. We discovered that regardless of what it looks like...they were all delicious!





## GF WC –AZ Club Highlights

### VI-SA-WEN WOMEN'S CLUB - MARCH 2025

**SPRING FLING:** McMullen Valley Chambers annual fund raiser, the Spring Fling, was our next event. For this, a page from our Dick Wick Hall play-book was taken and members sold homemade pies. Linda Eberwein and Pat Pisarski bundled up against a cold wind for this mid-February event. Club ladies produced twenty-one pies selling for a total of \$465. These funds will be used for the Club's community projects.



### BRIGHTNIGHT'S QUILT DRAWINGS

Remember last quarter when I introduced the ladies from Wenden's BrightNight Solar Project?

Yasmine Kattan, BrightNight's Communications Manager, purchased \$400.00 worth of quilts (which you can see in the background) from us which she used for prizes during the Spring Fling event. Showing their firm's "good neighbor policy", Yasemine volunteered to distribute GFWC-AZ-Visa-Wen firm's 'good neighbor policy', Yasmine volunteered to distribute brochures also. Thank you, Yasmine!



**50+ YEARS: ViSaWen** celebrates fifty-one (51) years of membership in GFWC with member Charlotte Van Nierop. Charlotte began her membership in Florida with the GFWC Juniors. She moved several times in her life, always finding a club to join before landing in Lake Havasu with the London Bridge club. When that club disbanded, Charlotte joined ViSaWen. Yeah, Charlotte, we are so please to call you member and friend!!!



## GFWC-AZ Club Highlights



**GFWC**  
est. 1890  
**GENERAL FEDERATION  
OF WOMEN'S CLUBS**



### Volunteers in Action:

#### GFWC Paradise Valley Woman's Club

**The GFWC Paradise Valley Woman's Club** recognized the need to support older foster youth transitioning to independent living. Members donated 460 personal hygiene products, which were assembled into 40 men's and women's toiletry totes for Arizona Friends of Foster Children (AFFC).





## GFWC –AZ Club Highlights



GFWC Southern District Chili Pepper  
December 6, 2024



The following members helped assemble the Baby Shower items for the Ronald McDonald House:  
Faye James, Dianna Swenson, Sheila Schommer, Gisela Halley, Alexandra Sethi, Dianne Maki-Sethi  
and Sharon Brunk.

The GFWC Chili Peppers worked with Ronald McDonald House to stock their closet for newborn items to give Baby Shower Bags to the parents as they take their new babies home. The Club started with the latest wish from Ronald McDonald House. Items were newborn Huggies, baby wipes, onesies, socks, receiving blankets, washcloths, towels and hats.

Part of the fun of the project is delivering the items to Ronald McDonald House and getting a picture with Ronald. Mikay Wright & Dianne with Ronald.



### VOLUNTEER HOURS FOR PROJECT:

10 volunteer hours for purchasing contents of baby items.  
5 hours making new baby cards:  
10 girls 10 boys  
1 hours for delivering Baby Shower items & photo at Ronald McDonald House



# GFWC-AZ Club Highlights

## NOGALES WOMAN'S CLUB



**GFWC Nogales Woman's club** was busy in the months of December, January and February! In December members participated in a Corre Corre Santa Clos fun run and handed out books at a children's event. December was the traditional fundraising event for the scholarships which are awarded in May. January's meeting was an opportunity for our members to develop their artistic abilities and in February members attended several elementary schools to deliver books to the students.





**THE BOOK NOOK**  
**Brought to you by**  
**GFWC ESO Fifth Wheels WC**

**The First Ladies**

by Marie Benedict & Christopher Murray



This book is a good blend of Women's History (March is Women's History Month) and Black History (February was Black History Month). Marie Benedict has made her writing career highlighting women who need to be written about. She really does her research, and makes her characters come to life. She is also an easy read and very accessible.

This novel is about the extraordinary partnership between First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt and civil rights activist Mary McLeod Bethune—an unlikely friendship that changed the world, from the *New York Times* bestselling authors of the *Good Morning America*, Book Club pick *The Personal Librarian*.

Eleanor Roosevelt is a name that many of us have grown up with. After her husband's death she represented the US at the United Nations. She was also a member of the Chautauqua Woman's Club. She spoke at the Convention of the General Federation.

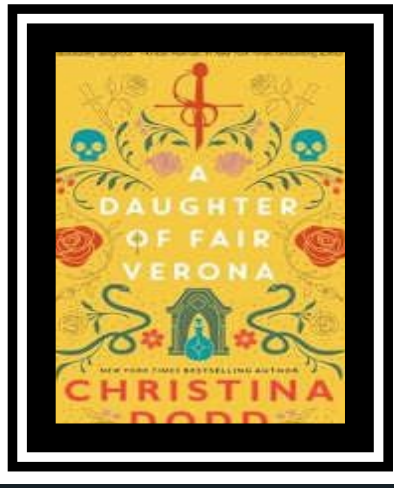
Mary McLeod Bethune, the daughter of formerly enslaved parents, refuses to back down as white supremacists attempt to thwart her work. She marches on as an activist and an educator, and as her reputation grows, she becomes a celebrity, revered by titans of business and recognized by U.S. Presidents. Eleanor Roosevelt herself is awestruck and eager to make her acquaintance. Initially drawn together because of their shared belief in women's rights and the power of education, Mary and Eleanor become fast friends confiding their secrets, hopes and dreams—and holding each other's hands through tragedy and triumph.

This is the story of two different, yet equally formidable, passionate, and committed women, and the way in which their singular friendship helped form the foundation for the modern civil rights movement.

This was a great read and the hope is that you will pick it up and enjoy it, too.

Barbara Clemens, President  
GFWC ESO 5th Wheels WC  
bjclemens1944@gmail.com





## A Daughter of Fair Verona

By Christina Dodd

What if Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliette had ended differently? Christina Dodd takes on a magical journey to the fair city of Verona and gives us a glimpse of the raucous world that Romeo and Juliette and their family have created for themselves. This book is absolutely delightful. The quasi Shakespearean language take you into the story spinning. If you are looking for something truly different, this is a charmer. If you had Shakespeare 101 in college you will wish he had written this story.

Once upon a time a young couple met and fell in love. You probably know that story, and how it ended (hint: badly). Only here's the thing: That's not how it ended at all.

Romeo and Juliet are alive and well and the parents of seven kids. I'm the oldest, Rosie Montague, named for Roseline of course, with the emphasis on 'old'—a certified spinster at twenty, and happy to stay that way. It's not easy to keep your taste for romance with parents like mine. Picture it—constant monologues, passionate declarations, fighting, making up, making out . . . it's exhausting.

Each time they've presented me with a betrothal, I've set out to find the groom-to-be a more suitable bride. After all, someone sensible needs to stay home and manage this household. But their latest match, Duke Stephano, isn't so easy to palm off on anyone else. The debaucher has had three previous wives—all of whom met unfortunate ends. Conscience forbids me from consigning another woman to that fate. As it turns out, I don't have to . . .

At our betrothal ball—where, quite by accident, I meet a beautiful young man who makes me wonder if perhaps there is something to love at first sight—I stumble upon Duke Stephano with a dagger in his chest. But who killed him? His late wives' families, his relatives, his mistress, his servants—half of Verona had motive. And when everyone around the Duke begins dying, disappearing, or descending into madness, I know I must uncover the killer . . . before death lies on me like an untimely frost.

This promises to be a quick 305-page read with you giggling most of the way.