



Woman's Club of Lacey Shore District NEWSLETTER MAY 2026



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – LORI YOUNG - Lots going on in the merry month of May! This month we will be voting for our 2026-2028 Executive Board team. Our Parliamentarian Terry Acquavita and her assistants will be distributing ballots, monitoring the voting process, and counting the ballots. On Monday, May 25th, the Woman's Club will once again be walking in the Lacey Memorial Day parade. Please consider making this walk with your friends up Lacey Road from the Methodist Church to the Municipal Building where we will lay a wreath honoring those who lost their lives in defense of our country. We will meet at the church at 9:30 am. Step off is 10 am. On May 30th, the Woman's Club will be participating in the Relay for Life event at Veterans Park. Please turn in your decorated luminaria bags to me by May 29th. We will be helping set up for the luminaria ceremony on May 30th at 7 pm and walking a lap at 9 pm to honor those loved ones who have been affected by cancer. Please join us!

1ST VICE PRESIDENT, MARIA KOWALEWSKI - Happy Mother's Day; pet mothers too! If you are planning on attending the June 10th meeting at Kristy's, please remember to bring a check in the amount of \$44.50 payable to the W.C. of Lacey or cash, if you prefer, to either the May 13th meeting or one of our Monday Activity Days. Payment is due to Kristy's by June 3rd. Thank you for your cooperation.

2ND VICE PRESIDENT, JO FACCIOLLI – Reports
- Today you will hear about the awards we received for our end of year reports. You will recognize how important it is to write informative narratives and keep track of in-kind donations as well as your time spent. Thank you for all the work you did last year and so far this year. Even though all departments did not receive awards, we are all winners and I appreciate all the hard work we do for this Club. Teamwork = results. Results = pride and joy in our accomplishments. Please remember to take photographs of your events so we can post the wonderful work we do and share with other Clubs and NJSFWC and GFWC members. Thank you.

3RD VICE PRESIDENT, CAROL LA VELLE –
I hope everyone had a wonderful Mother's Day! If anyone knows someone who is interested in joining our club or plan on attending a meeting, please let me know.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, JACKIE STEPHENS –I will report at General meeting.

RECORDING SECRETARY, LEE CASSARINO –
I will report at the General Meeting.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY, SANDY DE YONKER
We have 101 paid members and 6 honorary members. All permits are up to date.

TREASURER, JOAN SCHULER – Mother's Day and Memorial Day are special days to remember in May! Celebrate and remember their dedication. The Treasurer's reports will be available at the May General Meeting.

FEDERATION SECRETARY – LORI VIRCILLO
The NJSFWC Convention was held at the Hard Rock Hotel May 4-6. Convention Chatter should be published soon. Check the website for all the information.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS

ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN: Mariana Marzacco and Judy Schermerhorn – Congratulations to Nancy Conway for winning \$125.00 at our April Meeting. Remember, all our proceeds are designated towards special projects at our Lacey Schools for our Multiple Disability Children. Your support is greatly appreciated.

ARTS & CULTURE: Carol Candeletti – We are looking for all sewers to help us make Smile Bags for Operation Smile. See me if you want the instructions to make the bags. We would appreciate your help. If anyone needs fabric, I have some we could use. Thanks, Carol

ARTS PERFORMING: Jeanne Scaffiddi - The Merilee Singers have been asked to perform at Justine Weinberg's memorial service on May 30th at 10 AM at the Presbyterian Church in FR. Rehearsals are planned for

April 21 and 28, May 5 and 19 at community hall at 10:15. An additional rehearsal is planned for May 12 at Chris Urban's house, 20 Hollywood Blvd., FR at 11:00.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH

NJ Sharing Network: Jo Faccioli - Mark your calendar for Saturday, June 6th 9:00 a.m. We will meet at Gille Park and walk one lap (or more if you like) in support of NJ Sharing Network's Celebration of Life Walk. A sign up sheet will be passed around and a \$5.00 donation is being requested. More to follow.

Wrapped in Love: Jo Faccioli - 4 blankets have been donated this month.

Wreaths Across America : Jo Faccioli- We are back to supporting the Good Luck Cemetery. I will have new forms uploaded to the website and will have some forms handy. Thank you again for all your donations.

Holiday Stockings: - Laura McDonald

Special Needs Adults: Debra Gamsby/Janet Mulero – On April 24th, the committee for adults with special needs held a neon tie-dye glow-in-the-dark dance party. The party was a great success and all our guests had a great time. Ivette and Cheyann Lucus volunteer their time and talents as our photographers. They not only took pictures all evening but gave our guests pictures to take home. Pictures have been sent to Jo for our website and many others are posted on my Facebook page. Thanks to all for the in-kind donations and to all our wonderful volunteers in our kitchen. We served tacos, meatballs, and had cupcakes for dessert. We were blessed to have DJ Pete volunteer his time and several of our guests sang karaoke and received ribbons. Robyn Griffith from Relay for Life donated 60 luminaria bags for our guests to color and return. These will be displayed on the Relay for Life track on May 30th. We awarded approximately 20 donated door prizes to our guests from the free gift raffle we hold each month. Our 50/50 raised was \$130, door receipts and donations totaled \$915, and In Kind donations exceeded \$2,700, See you next month for Star Wars!

Awareness & Prevention: Maddie Stapleton – Providence House: To all of us that have cared for others-Happy Mother's day! The DSVAP group will be working on a summer treat for the children who are currently at Providence House.

Intergenerational: Joyce Huffert and Dolores Martinez – Nothing to report

Pinwheel Garden: Pinwheels for Prevention-Prevent Child Abuse: Jackie Stephens. Our pinwheels were up and spinning in front of townhall for the entire month of April. It was an outstanding display to show our support for this worthy cause.

EDUCATION & LIBRARIES

Bridges of Books: Debbie Smith –

Read Across America: Debbie Smith -

Poster Contest: Christine Russell -

Monthly Book Club: Nancy Conway/Maria Kowalewski
Happy Mother's Day. We will be meeting at 12 noon on Tuesday, May 19th, when we will be discussing Women's Hotel by Daniel Lavery. Judy S. is signed up for refreshments.

Scholarships: Karen Martinak–

Girls Career Institute Darlene Johnson/Diana Monia

ENVIRONMENT ISSUES

Conservation: Joyce Huffert/Diane Moser – Happy Mother's Day!
Our shoe collection has ended as of April 30th. We collected 340 pairs of shoes which were donated to Your Mother's Cupboard. Thanks to all who made this a SUCCESS!

Doggie Angels: Lil Campbell, Rachel Clemmer and Rae Mauri –

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Home Life: Sheila Anderson – We are continuing to collect cell phones for our soldiers. In addition, don't forget to donate your old eyeglasses. Thank you to those who have donated in the past and to those who will contribute now. It is definitely appreciated!

Nursing Home: Dawn Korman – Gently used clothing, coats and stuffed animals are always welcome at the nursing home. Thank you.

Food Bank: Carol Crotty – At our April meeting, we received 66 miscellaneous items. Thank you for your support.

The Lacey Food Bank is requesting the following items to support their Summer Snack Drive for Lacey children: granola bars, fruit snacks, juice boxes, snack size chips, pretzels and goldfish, cheese and cracker packs, snack size pudding and jello, rice crispy treats, microwave popcorn and pop tarts. Please support them if you can.

Operation Smile: Carol La Velle – I am still collecting items for the children. We are in need of small games, toys, dolls or small personal items to fill smile bags. Please refer to our website for the full list needed. Thank you!

STANDING COMMITTEES

CARING CORNER: Diane Moser – Happy Mother's Day

Three cards were sent out this month. A sympathy card to Melody Johnson for the loss of her husband. Melody is a former member of our club. Get well cards were sent to Lillis Campbell and Lori Vircillo

COMMUNICATIONS

Communication – Jo Faccioli- Happy Mother's Day, Happy Memorial Day - this Memorial Day and every day please remember to thank a Veteran for their service.

Please make sure I have your email, so you are kept up to date about the ongoings of the Club.

Email: Jo Faccioli- If you changed your email or if you are a new member, please make sure I have your email address.

Website: Jo Faccioli-

Please visit www.womanscluboflacey.org and make sure your information is correct. Also, if you wish to advertise your fundraiser on the website and add it to the calendar you must send me your information.

Calendar: Jo Faccioli-

If you are planning an event, please let me know so I can add it to the calendar of events.

Facebook/Instagram: Jo Faccioli- Please follow us on both social media sites, as well as Lacey Patch.

Photography -While we are lucky to have a very talented photographer in our midst, Linda cannot be everywhere. Please remember to take photos of your events, meetings, etc. so we can proudly post and share with the community our great works.

Photos: Linda Hruska

Newsletter: Terry Acquavita – Wishing you all a Happy Mother's Day and Happy Memorial Day.

Eulogies: Nancy Fortin –

Hospitality: Helen DelaCruz – Please check your handbooks for reminders of your contributions and assistance for our monthly meetings. Thank you.

Parliamentarian: Chairwoman – Terry Acquavita –

Registration/Phone:

Lil Campbell/Nancy Conway – Members, please remember \$2.00 is being collected by all those attending our General Meetings to help offset the cost of administration costs of our Club. Thank you.

Roving Reporter: Lori Vircillo – This month I had the pleasure of speaking with Robin O'Brien, a member of the club since 2013.

Robin was born in Pittsburgh but moved to New Jersey when she was nine after the passing of her father and the remarriage of her mother. The family started off in a boarding house in Hackensack, but shortly after a home was bought in Teaneck and that's where she spent many years, graduating from Teaneck High School in 1958.

Robin met her husband, a policeman in Teaneck, and they were married in 1961. Her daughter Beverly was born there before they moved to Oakland where her son Craig was born. Always busy, Robin was active in the PTA, was a Sunday School teacher and was introduced to Women's Volleyball playing in Oakland.

Upon moving to Forked River in 1973 Robin certainly stayed active. She worked at the Forked River School beginning on the playground, but then moving into the position of library assistant where she served for 31 years (over 20 with fellow club woman Monica Sisbarro).

Outside of work, Robin stayed very busy. For many years she was a member of the Ocean County Master Gardeners. She was involved in the school PTA's serving as president and actually starting new PTA's in the Middle School and High School as her children moved through the district working with both county and state PTA organizations. She started a Volleyball Club playing at the Forked River School moving later to the Middle School; she played on the Women's Softball Club then decided to move onto tennis taking lessons at the Ocean County Park (along with fellow club member Barbara Bowen).

While vacationing in Florida she was introduced to pickleball. She approached the Lacey Recreation Director to introduce Pickleball here. He told her if there

was enough interest he would be on board. So, she spoke it up to everyone she knew and the rest is history!

When not playing pickleball Robin enjoys playing Canasta, Hand and Foot, Bunco and of course the company of her 3 grandchildren: Garrett, Dana, Conner, and her great-grandson, Will.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

ACHIEVEMENT DAY: Joan Schuler – As previously stated, our Club entered 22 original works of craftsmanship at the Shore Conference held at Spring Lake Manor on April 28. The Shore District has numerous talented women, but I am pleased to report that the WCOL had 6 FIRST PLACE winners and many 2nd and 3rd place recognitions. All winners will be honored at our June General Meeting. Keep your fingers crossed, maybe we will also have some State winners as well!

ACTIVITY DAY: Lina Kazala –Play Date Changes
For Activity Day for the end of May and early June. We are NOT playing on Monday, May 26, Memorial Day and NOT playing Tuesday, May 27, nor June 1 because of Early Voting. This is on your schedule. Happy Mother's Day and Celebrate Memorial Day for all the soldiers who fought for our country. God Bless Them!

FUNDRAISING: - There will be sign-up sheets at the May general meeting for the Lacey Farmer's Market Bake Sale. The dates we were given are **June 26, July 24 and August 28**. Please enter your name on the sellers and/or the baker's sign-up sheets for any month you can assist. Items needed are: Any cakes/brownies in an 8x8 disposable aluminum pan (no icing please), mini breads (banana, zucchini, etc.), regular-sized muffins, palm-sized cookies, bundt cakes. The club will provide the disposable plastic bags that hold two cookies, mini-loaf pans with lids and the plastic 6 pack of muffin containers. Each baker should provide their own disposable 8x8 aluminum baking pans themselves available in the baking aisle of any supermarket or dollar store. Club members are providing a tent, tables, chairs, and a change box. Please help support this fundraising effort.

SPECIAL STATE PROJECT – Cathy Katsianis - Last month, our members voted in favor of selecting the Embrella Project for the 2026-28 special state project. The results will be revealed at the State Conference at the beginning of May. Let's hope that Embrella will be selected state-wide.

Calendar Club: Debbie Terry/Carol Candeletti – May's Calendar Club winners were as follows:
\$500 – Carol C. #259
\$100 – Janet M. #403
\$100 - Dianna R. # 62
\$100 - Kyle T. #142
\$100 - Celia V. #95

Monthly Raffle:

Gift card won by Pat Spielman (\$100 Hand and Stone)
50/50 \$125 won by Nancy Conway

Trips: - Barbara Bowen - Happy Mother's Day! The trips lists will be on the back table as usual. The full payment is due for Pretty Woman (\$81 or \$56 if you paid the \$25). PLEASE put your meal choice in for me. The date is Tuesday, July 30th. Deposit (\$25) for Ghosts on Tuesday, September 8th is due also. There will also be flyers for a Social Group bus trip to Rhode Island from Monday, September 14-18 Friday. See me if interested. We have 4 going so far. Happy Days, Barbara Bowen

Social Group :

BIRTHDAYS

MAY

Kathleen Cook	5/10
Marie Lacidonia	5/11
Janet Sramaty	5/14
Sandra Leonardis	5/25

JUNE

Barbara Fragasso	6/2
Gayle Cornish	6/5
Dianne Rogalski	6/6
Janet Mulero	6/6
Patricia Rosado	6/7
Kathy Barrett	6/12
Carol Nichols	6/14
Barbara Moreau	6/24