



# Woman's Club of Lacey Shore District NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2025



**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – LORI YOUNG** – Sending early Valentine's Day greetings to all our members – may your Valentine's Day be filled with love from family and friends.

February is heart health month – thank you all for wearing **RED** this month. We will gather right after adjournment at the general meeting – before our speaker takes the microphone -- to take a photograph on the stage of all our members in red.

This month I will be accepting written nominations for members to be recognized on the NJSFWC's Honor Roll and Order of the Lily. Honor Roll recognition is a way to let an active involved member know how much she is appreciated. In accordance with our bylaws, please email me your nomination and a brief explanation of why you believe this honor would be appropriate. Order of the Lily is reserved for members already on the Honor Roll who go above and beyond the call of duty within our Club and in the community. A list of Honor Roll and Order of the Lily members is printed in the front of our handbook.

Mariana and Sheila have decided to step down from handling GCI after the process is completed for this year. We will need at least two ladies willing to take over this important function. The application process will begin soon and so it is a perfect time to jump on board and learn about the process before officially taking over.

State convention registration forms will be out soon. Please see me if you are interested in going in May.

**1ST VICE PRESIDENT, MARIA KOWALEWSKI** - Happy Valentine's Day to all! Our speaker for this month will be Mark Gerhauser from the Office of Senior Services.

**2ND VICE PRESIDENT, JO FACCIOLLI** – Reports for 2024 have been filed with the State. Please provide robust information to the newsletter and/or please fill out a report form. I have the new forms and they can be located on the website.

**3RD VICE PRESIDENT, CAROL LA VELLE** – Happy Valentine's Day. We have a guest coming to our meeting. Please let Lillis, Nancy or me know if any of you are bringing a guest. Thank you!

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, JOAN ENGELHARDT** – I will report at the meeting.

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

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY, ANDREA HIGLEY** – We now have 96 members and 7 honorary! All our licenses are up to date through December! If you are planning an event where a license will be needed, please let me know ahead of time sometimes it takes a while to receive. Dues in the amount of \$36 for the year need to be paid by the March meeting. Of course, early payment is always appreciated. Thank you.

**TREASURER, JOAN SCHULER:** Please remember to include an Expense and/or Income Voucher when you are requesting reimbursement or providing me with a deposit for the Club. It is appreciated.

**FEDERATION SECRETARY – LORI VIRCILLO** - Happy Health Month and Valentine's Day! Thank you to everyone who donated to Day of Service warm socks program. It was truly a large success. Thank you!

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS**

### **ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN: Mariana Marzacco**

At our January meeting we raised \$100.00 for the Club. Diane Moser was our lucky winner.

**ARTS & CULTURE: Carol Candeletti** – We will continue to make dog toys for Popcorn Park and Smile Bags. If anyone has any ideas for us, please let me know. I'm looking for someone that has expertise in making wreaths and would like to help us or give us pointers on that, please get in touch.

### **ARTS PERFORMING: Jeanne Scaffidi** -

### **CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH**

*Happy Valentine's Day and Heart Healthy Month!!*

**NJ Sharing Network** -Interested in organ and tissue donation? Visit [www.registerme.org](http://www.registerme.org).

**– Wrapped in Love** -This month to date I have collected and had delivered 20 lap blankets for the Wrapped in Love program. If you are new to the club I collect handmade lap blankets which are donated to families who have given the gift of life by organ and tissue donation. These blankets are greatly appreciated by all who receive them.

**Wreaths Across America** - New forms are available on the website or see me if you wish to purchase a wreath for St. Joseph's Cemetery. This location was short 600 wreaths last year so our help is greatly appreciated. If you have contacts with a corporation or establishment, please ask them to make a donation towards this endeavor and help us get a wreath to all deserving Veterans interred at this location. Wreaths can still be designated to whichever cemetery you wish.

**Holiday Stockings:** Amy Meyer –

## **DOMESTIC & SEXUAL VIOLENCE**

### **Awareness & Prevention: Maddie Stapleton – Providence House:**

Happy Valentine's Day to you all! Our group spread Valentine's Day to cheer to the clients in transitional housing assisted by Providence House by making felt fortune cookies. These fortune cookies were filled with sweet messages and placed in large jars with delicious candies for the displaced women to enjoy. For the children we filled large jars with crayons, Valentine's Day coloring pages and small toys for their entertainment.

Our group would like to express our thanks for the Woman's Club of Lacey members who donated 7 rolls of paper towels & 6 drink boxes for the Providence House

bringing our total to: 57 rolls of paper towels, 39 individualized drink/juice boxes, and 86 individually wrapped snacks. Thank you all!

**Pinwheel Garden: Pinwheels for Prevention-Prevent Child Abuse:** Jackie Stephens.

## **EDUCATION & LIBRARIES**

**Bridges of Books:** Debbie Smith –

**Read Across America: Debbie Smith** - We are coming up to Read Across America week the first week of March. Many ladies signed up to read at our September meeting and I thank you. If anyone did not sign up but would like to read, please call Debbie Smith at 609-713-8816 and I will add you to my guest readers list. Our poster contest rules have been delivered to our elementary schools and we hope you will help select the winners at our March meeting.

**Monthly Book Club: Nancy Conway/Maria Kowalewski** Happy Valentines and heart healthy month. Literature will meet on Tuesday, February 18th at 12:30 in the Community Center. We will be discussing "The Sleepwalker" by Chris Bohjalian. Maria Fiorenza and Robin O'Brien will be bringing goodies.

**Scholarships: Diane Bauernhuber** –

**Girls Career Institute: Sheila Anderson/Mariana Marzacco** - A check for \$700 was sent to the NJSFWC Headquarters for two high school girls to attend the Girls Career Institute at Douglass College in June.

## **ENVIRONMENT ISSUES**

**Conservation: Joyce Huffert/Diane Moser – Environmental** - We are joining with the Methodist church with their effort in collecting household bags for Trex. Here is a listing of bags to collect: produce bags, store bags, ice bags, Ziplock and other reclosable bags, bread bags, newspaper sleeves, dry cleaning bags, bubble wrap and plastic e-commerce bags. Please bring to our general meeting and/or activity day. Please insure they are clean and dry!

**Doggie Angels: Lil Campbell, Rachel Clemmer and Rae Mauri** – Please continue to bring in old towels, newspapers, etc. for our friends at the Popcorn Park Zoo. Thank you.

## **HEALTH & WELLNESS**

**Home Life: Sheila Anderson** – Our collection of cell phones has been down so please reach out to family and friends and collect as many used cell phones as possible for our soldiers. Also don't forget to donate your used eyeglasses. Thank you for your support!

**Nursing Home: Dawn Korman** –We are asking if anyone has new, or like new small afghan blankets. Or perhaps if you like to crochet/knit, small or lap blankets for the newly admitted residents. These “Welcome Blankets” will hopefully help the residents make their transition into Long Term Care a bit cozier.

I am also looking for donations of travel size toiletries, adult diapers, disposable washcloths, men/woman clothing. Also, we would like donations of small tin of cookies!! Thank you!

**\*Volunteer Opportunities Dates\***

**Crystal Lake- Bayville**

**2/14 1:30 Valentines Day Party**

**2/19 1:30 Monthly Birthday Party**

**Spring Oak- Lanoka Harbor**

**The activities department gave me these dates and times-**

**2/14 2:00**

**2/24 2:00**

**2/28 2:00**

**Food Bank: Carol Crotty** – At our January meeting we collected 112 cans of tuna and 22 miscellaneous food items for our local food bank. Please continue to support the Food Bank. Thank you!

**Operation Smile: Carol La Velle** – I will be collecting for Operation Smile until April. The complete list of Items needed is on our website. Thank you ladies!

## **STANDING COMMITTEES**

**CARING CORNER: Diane Moser** – Five cards were sent out since our last meeting. If you know of anyone of our members in need of a card, please notify our president or me.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

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

**Advertising: Jo Faccioli** - If you are hosting a fundraiser, it is your responsibility to get the information to me as soon as possible. Several announcements and photos were posted on **Lacey Patch** under **Neighborhood News** and the **Woman's Club of Lacey and NJSFWC Facebook pages Channel 21**.

**Website: Jo Faccioli** -

Please visit [www.womanscluboflacey.org](http://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. **NOTE:** If you send an announcement or dates for the newsletter, please copy me for the website and calendar.

**Calendar:** It is updated regularly. Any information or dates you have in advance can be placed on the calendar.

**Facebook: Jo Faccioli** –If you belong to Facebook, please visit our page and follow us to keep up with what is happening and to share so all know about the work we do. Also, we have a page for Wreaths Across America. Please like and follow up there as well as we move towards purchasing wreaths for 2025. <https://www.facebook.com/WreathsAcrossAmericaWomansClubofLaceyNJ0284P>

**Photos: Linda Hruska**

**Newsletter: Joan Schuler** – Please read the Newsletter to keep up to date on all our ongoing events. Those members who wish to include a note or information in the Newsletter, please forward by the Friday after the Board Meeting. Thank you!

**Eulogies: Nancy Fortin** – It is with great sadness that I tell you of the passing of Diane Ash. Diane was Woman's Club of Lacey treasurer for 8 years, Financial Secretary for 3 years and she chaired the Calendar Club for numerous years. A friend to many and a dedicated WC of Lacey member. Diane would have celebrated "25-Year" membership this year.

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

**Parliamentarian: Chairwoman needed – 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: Justine Weinberg** - This month I had the pleasure of interviewing Cathy Katsianis. Cathy was born in Canton, Ohio, the oldest of five children. She grew up in Clifton, NJ, graduating from Clifton High School and William Paterson University. She also did graduate work at Kean College and Temple University. Cathy was a speech therapist and special education teacher with the Berkeley Township School District for 36 years, retiring in 2012.

Cathy married George Katsianis in 1970. Sadly he passed away from Parkinson's disease in October 2023. They have three sons and seven grandchildren ranging in age from one to

17. Religious faith is important to Cathy, attributable much to her parents Roman Catholic faith and the love and care she was given growing up. She and George raised their sons in the Greek Orthodox faith where Cathy remains active at St. Barbara Greek Orthodox Church. She belongs to the Philoptochus, Friends of the Poor. Cathy is part of a large family with 46 members on both sides so the holidays and other occasions are always busy and fun!

Cathy's hobbies include boating, swimming, biking, reading, yoga and dancing. She has traveled extensively as her husband was born in Greece and family visits were combined with visiting other European countries. She has also sailed on the Intracoastal Waterway from NJ to Florida and north through Long Island Sound, Newport and Block Island.

Cathy's plans for the future are to stay in good health and enjoy family and friends. She would like to travel more and has a small home and orange farm in Greece but this and other travel plans are difficult to coordinate without George. Cathy says like most people she has struggled but has always worked very hard and never regretted it. She says it "keeps you out of trouble!!"

## **SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

**ACHIEVEMENT DAY:** Joan Schuler – Getting close to the deadline to finish your creative project for the April Shore Conference. I will have forms that need to be completed to accompany that project. Any questions, please give me a call or see me after the February meeting. Thank you for participating.

**ACTIVITY DAY:** Lina Kazala – THANK YOU for supporting Activity Day. This is a social fun day, and we are exercising our brains with card playing and Mah Jongg games and enjoying good snacks. We play on Mondays 12-3:30 at 15 E. Lacey Road. If there are any changes in the schedule, I will let you know.

**FUNDRAISING:** Diana Monia -

**Calendar Club: Debbie Terry** -The Calendar Club's first drawing was on January 15. Our lucky winners were as follows:

\$500, Kyle Terry, ticket #206  
 \$100, Lil Campbell, ticket #36  
 \$100, Bill Terry, ticket #24  
 \$100, Carol Crotty, ticket #327 and  
 \$100, Ingro Desvousges, ticket #121.

**Monthly Baskets:** January's lovely basket helped to contribute to our Club in the amount of \$170. I would also like to thank those who contributed to the January Basket, namely: Joan Englehart, Cathy Katsianis, Caroline Lindsey; Rae Mauri and Justine Weinberg. Thank you all for your support. **Mariana Marzacco**

**Trips: Barbara Bowen** –Happy Valentine's Day ! The six performances at the Surf Light will be laid out. for sign up on 2 tables in the back. I ordered 20 tickets for each show, except the first one, Top Hat, 15 tickets. All the information is on each sign up sheet : price, date, due date for payment and meal choices for restaurant. If extra tickets need to be ordered, they will not be with the other seats, if they are available. Today is the last day to sign up for the Irish Cabaret on March 14th , \$139.. There are 19 of us going..

**Let's Get Moving: Lori Young** - January has been a rough month for walking outside! Hoping for a milder in February. Please let me know what kind of exercise you have been able to do this month. I'm still collecting hours spent on any type of formal exercise – walking, y. , exercise class, biking, Zumba. Just send me an email or use the form I have on our website.

## **SPECIAL STATE PROJECT: Cathy Katsianis**

As you are aware, our fundraiser for the Special State Project for NJ Children's Alliance this year will be a Hobby Fair to be held at Community Hall on March 30. Plans for the Hobby Fair are progressing. It would be appreciated if all members who signed up to assist in this event would stay after the February general meeting so we can discuss. Thank you.

## **BIRTHDAY**

### **FEBRUARY:**

Rose Squeo	2/7
Lori Virchillo	2/7
Nancy Fortin	2/11
Kathy DeMey	2/11
Dot Van Blarcom	2/12
Carol Setzer	2/15
Ellena DiCicco	2/23
Lina Kazala	2/26

### **MARCH:**

Helen Dela Cruz	3/7
Lee Cassarino	3/14
Karen Martenak	3/18
Tina Pilot	3/27