



Woman's Club of Lacey Shore District NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2025



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – LORI YOUNG - The month of November calls to mind gratitude and gratefulness. In the words of Marcel Proust, "Let us be grateful to the people who make us happy; they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom." As we prepare for Thanksgiving with family and friends, let's reflect on all the "charming gardeners" we have met through the Woman's Club of Lacey. A heartfelt "thank you" to all of you for all that you contribute to make our Club a place where souls blossom.

Best wishes to all for a Thanksgiving holiday filled with joy and happiness.

1ST VICE PRESIDENT, MARIA KOWALEWSKI -

We are having a speaker from Ocean County Office of Senior Services at our November meeting. Hopefully we will find out about some services that are available to us. All meetings, activity day, dances & fundraisers have been booked with the town. The Luncheon menu for our December meeting at the Captains Inn has been placed on every table. Please advise Lil Campbell of your choice of entree. The cost of the luncheon is just \$1 more than it was last year. Also, our club was able to donate 19 full size bodywash/shampoos and 10 nylon Loofah sponges to NJSFWC Operation Sisterhood. Happy Thanksgiving to all!

2ND VICE PRESIDENT, JO FACCIOILLI –

Reports – Report Narratives are in the works.

3RD VICE PRESIDENT, CAROL LA VELLE – We

have a few new guests coming to our general meeting. I will report further at the meeting.
Happy Thanksgiving!

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, JOAN

ENGELHARDT – I will report at the meeting.

RECORDING SECRETARY, LEE CASSARINO –

I will report at the General Meeting.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY, SANDY DE YONKER

We currently have 90 members and 6 honorary members. All permits are up to date.

TREASURER, JOAN SCHULER – I will report at the General Meeting. Happy Holidays!

FEDERATION SECRETARY – LORI VIRCILLO –

November 9- 15 is NJSFWC Membership Week. Let's take some group photos with our banner, post on the club's Facebook page and send it to NJSFWC Facebook. We have a lot to be proud of.

The Collection for *Operation Sisterhood* at the State Fall Conference was amazing, over 600 items were donated totaling over \$2500. *Operation Sisterhood* supports women veterans across NJ. Thank you, Maria, for bringing all the items with you to the Fall Conference.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS

ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN: **Mariana Marzacco**

Congratulations to Toni Celano winning \$138.00 at our October meeting. Thanks to everyone for your continued support. Wishing you all a very Happy Thanksgiving.

ARTS & CULTURE: **Carol Candeletti** –

If any committee needs help or wants something made for them, please let me know. Any new member, if you are interested in joining this committee, please contact me. The LTHS Fall production will be *Arsenic & Old Lace* on 11/20, 21 & 22 at 7pm. 11/23 at 2pm. Tickets are on sale, the prices are VIP \$15, General Admission \$12, Senior \$10, there is an additional fee charge with the ticket purchase.

ARTS PERFORMING: **Jeanne Scaffidi** -

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!

J Sharing Network: Jo Faccioli - Are you an organ donor? Please make sure your family is aware of your choices. If not, register here at www.registerme.org

Wrapped in Love: Jo Faccioli - 10 blankets as of this writing will be donated to the NJ Sharing Network this month.

Wreaths Across America: Jo Faccioli – DEADLINE: The deadline to order a wreath is Nov. 30th. I encourage you to donate at least one wreath to this wonderful organization for Veterans. Visit our page at <https://www.wreathsassamerica.org/pages/178953/Overview/?relatedId=159755>.

If you are not comfortable purchasing online, I will have forms at the meeting. Please bring a check made payable to *Wreaths Across America* and I will do the bulk mailing. Questions? See me at the meeting or call me. Wreaths cost \$17.00 each.

Holiday Stockings: Amy Meyer -

Special Needs Adults: Debra Gamsby/Janet Mulero – We had our Halloween karaoke dance party on November 7. We had approximately 60 special-needs adults in attendance with their guardians in addition to our volunteers, over 100 people in attendance.

We received \$525 in donations. The 50-50 winner received \$75. In addition, there were in-kind donations. DJ Pete was our DJ and Ivette and Cheyann were our photographers.

Next month we will be hosting Whoville dance party on Friday, December 19, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Chuck will be our Santa, and we will also have a grinch.

We have been blessed and have teddy bears donated for all our special needs guests and antlers. Any extra teddy bears will be donated to Providence House.

We are now selling tickets to our Music Festival fundraiser in March.

Intergenerational: Joyce Huffert/Rose Squeo –

DOMESTIC & SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Awareness & Prevention: Maddie Stapleton –

Providence House: The DSVAP group met to plan out our year. In September we already filled 10 backpacks with school supplies. This October we packed 10 treat-or-treat buckets with lots of goodies such as: crackers, granola bars, juice boxes, chips, fruit snacks, cookies, and let's not forget toothbrushes, toothpaste and dental floss. In November we would like to load laundry baskets with Thanksgiving foods, but we need your HELP! We are collecting the following according to the first letter of your last name: For example, if your last name starts with an A or B, you would bring in box(es) of macaroni and cheese.

A/B	Macaroni & Cheese
C/D	Stuffing
E/F/G	Mashed Potatoes
H/I/J	Corn Bread
K/L	Green beans
M/N	Corn
O/P/Q	Carrots
R/S	Sweet Potatoes
T/U/V	Cranberry sauce
W-Z	Gravy

Thank you for helping those dealing with domestic violence feel gratitude for receiving food from those that care.

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

EDUCATION & LIBRARIES

Bridges of Books: Debbie Smith - Thank you to all the wonderful ladies that have donated books to the Bridge of Books Foundation. We have partnered with Lacey Elks Lodge to collect more donations. We will continue to collect book donations until the end of November. Hope everyone has a Happy Thanksgiving.

Read Across America: Debbie Smith

Monthly Book Club: Nancy Conway/Maria Kowalewski Happy Thanksgiving! Literature will meet on Tuesday, November 18th at NOON. We will discuss "The Maid" by Nita Prose. Joyce Huffert and Judy Hill are bringing goodies. Last month's book was disliked by many, so we had a visit from local author Andra Napoleon who brought her book "Grandma has Dementia". It led to a lively discussion of aging and how families handle it.

Scholarships: Karen Martinak–

Girls Career Institute: Darlene Johnson/Diana Monia -

ENVIRONMENT ISSUES

Conservation: Joyce Huffert/Diane Moser – Happy Thanksgiving to all!

Thanks to all who participated in our coat drive with Your Grandmother's Cupboard. We collected 140 coats. Great job!

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 –

Food Bank: Carol Crotty – Thank you to everyone who contributes to our food drive. At our October meeting we contributed 72 miscellaneous food items to our Food Bank. Thank you for your support.

Operation Smile: Carol La Velle – Wishing everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving & a wonderful start to a happy holiday season.

Social Committee: Barbara Bowen - The Social group upcoming events are being planned.

STANDING COMMITTEES

CARING CORNER: Diane Moser –
Happy Thanksgiving to All!
No cards were sent this month.

COMMUNICATIONS

Communication :- Jo Faccioli - Please make sure I have your email, so you are kept up to date on the going on 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.

Photos: Linda Hruska

Newsletter: Joan Schuler – If you wish to place your upcoming event or information concerning your committee, please forward to me via email after the Board meeting which meets on the 1st Tuesday of the month. Thank you.

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 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/Lori Vircillo -
This month I had the pleasure of interviewing long-term member, Mary O'Malley.

Mary was born in the Bronx but grew up in North Jersey- Morristown and Clifton.

She attended Mount St Dominic's in Caldwell and then went on to Paterson State College. There she earned a master's degree in education and taught Social Studies for 34 years at Passaic Valley High School in Little Falls. Christmas 1979 Mary bought a small second home on Bay Avenue Forked River. When she retired from teaching in 2002, she came to Lacey full time buying a "more substantial home" in Lanoka Harbor.

Mary joined WCOL in 2009 and soon became a Merrilee Singer as well as reading and sharing books under the Literature Department.

Mary is a fun person who enjoys playing Mahjong with friends. She has a sister, Peggy, who lives in Maryland and she herself winters each year in Vero Beach, Florida.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

ACHIEVEMENT DAY: Joan Schuler –If you would like a copy of the items, rules, etc. for submitting your handiwork, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me. This will allow you to see what category your project(s) can be submitted under. I hope you will participate. All items are to be done within the current year, and everything must be completed by April.

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/Carol Candeletti -

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Monthly Baskets: Thank you to everyone for supporting this fundraiser. At our October meeting Kathy DeMey was the lucky winner and we collected \$190 which contributes to the operating expenses of our Club. Thank you.

Trips: Barbara Bowen – Sign-ups will again be available for the Surfflight in 2026 with the addition of Irving Berlin's Holiday Inn on Sunday, Dec.6, 2026. The cost will be \$81 , which is for the show & dinner. The number of sign-ups will determine how many tickets I order.

The sign up for Hunterdon Hills Show, Dr. K's Motown Revue on Wednesday, February 4, 2026, will also be there. The cost for the bus, show & lunch is \$135.

I will need the money by our December meeting or sending me a check or bringing it to Game day before Christmas (made out to the WC of Lacey) .

Hope everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving.

SPECIAL STATE PROJECT: Cathy Katsianis -**BIRTHDAY****NOVEMBER:**

Imelda Fragomeni	11/02
Lillis Campbell	11/05
Sandy DeYonker	11/14
Peggy Bea	11/19
Valerie Negra	11/29
Judy Schermerhorn	11/30

DECEMBER.

Carol Jones	12/3
Eleanor DelVecchio	12/8
Robin O'Brien	12/10
Karen Perks	12/10
Joan Engelhardt	12/16
Jo Faccioli	12/17
Jackie Stephens	12/18
Carol LaVelle	12/23
Carol Candeletti	12/29
BJ Graham	12/29