

Woman's Club of Lacey Shore District

NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2026

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – MARIA KOWALEWSKI

Dear members, Thanksgiving is here. A time to be thankful for our blessings, our family and our friends.
The Women's Club of Lacey is thankful for all of the wonderful and generous members who support our club all year long. Remember to bring your Thanksgiving food items for those less fortunate.

Our theme this month is red, white and blue. We will have special opening ceremonies this month before the meeting begins to honor our veterans and their families. We pray for the safety of all the men and women who are currently serving and thank their families for the sacrifices they are making as well. I'm always moved by the lyrics in Lee Greenwoods song "God Bless the USA." I'm proud to be an American where at least I know I'm free. And I won't forget the men who died, who gave that right to me." When you see a veteran, thank them for their service.

Your President

1ST VICE PRESIDENT, KAREN MARTENAK - Danielle Rosen from Embrella Will be at our November 11 meeting to share the purpose admission of this organization.

Flu shots will be available at the November 11 meeting beginning at 9:30 until the start of our meeting.

Our holiday luncheon in December will take place on the ninth at Captains Inn. At the meeting, you will be asked to choose your entrée. Menus will be on the table for you to review before you make your choice.

Lacey Women's Club donated 60 Christmas stockings for our troops. Great job ladies.

2nd VICE PRESIDENT, JO FACCIOLLI –
This month we give thanks for our Veterans who gave their lives for this country and for those still serving. America is the land of the free because of the brave. God bless them.

Reports Please start to wrap up your reports and get them to me by the December meeting. Our reports for the year must be completed and sent by February 1st. The report writing is a large undertaking and your cooperation is appreciated.

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3RD VICE PRESIDENT, CAROL LA VELLE- We accepted 3 new members to our club at the board meeting. I will introduce them at our general meeting on Wednesday. Happy Thanksgiving to all!

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, JACKIE STEPHENS – Happy Thanksgiving! So grateful for all the women in the Lacey Woman's Club

RECORDING SECRETARY, LORI VIRCILLO – I will report at the meeting. Wishing everyone Thanksgiving blessings.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY, SANDY DE YONKER- We have 98 paid members and 6 honorary members. All of our permits are up to date.
Happy November!

TREASURER - JOAN SCHULER

I will report at the meeting.

FEDERATION SECRETARY – LORI YOUNG
If you would like to follow the news from the State Office, please google "NJSFWC." Your first result will be njsfwc.org -- New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs. Click on "Materials" then "Almanacs & Bulletins." Each month the State Federation publishes a newsletter full of happenings in our Shore District and around the state.

The State is running a Member Writing Contest! Entries must fall into one of these six categories: **1. Poetry**: Minimum 8 lines, maximum 50 lines, any style **2. Haiku**: 17 syllables (5-7-5) one entry per person **3. Play/Skit One Act:** 10-15 minutes **4. Short Story**: 2,000-word limit. **5. Book Review**: 2,000-word limit **6. Memoir:** 2,000-word limit. The Rules for your writing entries will be in the yearbook for 2026-2027 under Project Ideas! The NJSFWC Creative Writing Contest Chairman, Kathy Pavalkis, 17 Dogwood Drive, North Brunswick, N.J. 08902 (e-mail: pavalkisk@gmail.com) must receive TWO copies of each entry with $1.00 per person/per entry no later than February 1, 2027.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS

ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN: Mariana Marzacco and Judy Schermerhorn – Congratulations to Judy Schermerhorn winning $130 at our September meeting. On Thursday, October 1st, Maria Kowalewski and I were happy to present to one of our High School Special Need classes, a check for $700 to pay for a much-needed new Refrigerator. The children were so happy and presented us with a thank you card signed by all of them. Thank you all for your support.

ARTS CREATIVE: Carol Candeletti:
I will have a sign-up sheet available at the meeting if anyone wants to join. New members are always welcome. We are making small chenille pumpkins to be donated to Spring Oak when the Merrilee Singers will be performing on November 12th. If anyone has any suggestions on a craft to do or anyone needs something for their committee, please let me know.

ARTS PERFORMING: Chris Urban/Jeanne Scaffidi
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MERRILEE SINGERS SEEKING NEW MEMBERS
Want to check us out? Come, sit in on any rehearsal 10:15am to 11:30am here at the community center. You can just listen or sing along. No pressure at all.
Here is our rehearsal schedule:

November 17, 24
December 8

For more info call:
Chris Urban- 609-693-6853
Dianne Rogalski- 609-242- 5680

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH

NJ Sharing Network: Jo Faccioll - if you are not already an organ donor please consider this and add to your license and let your family know your wishes.

Wrapped in Love: Jo Facciolli - 10 blankets have been donated to the NJ Sharing Network in October.

Wreaths Across America : Jo Facciolli.
Wreaths Across America - I have forms for Wreaths Across America. The Good Luck Cemetery has not met its projected number of wreaths. Please take a form or go on line and order a wreath for placement on a Veteran grave.
SAVE THE DATE: December 19th is Wreaths Across America day. The ceremony begins at 12:00 noon at the Good Luck Cemetery. A signup sheet will be available at the meeting if you plan to attend.

Holiday Stockings: - Laura McDonald

Adults with Special Needs: Debra Gamsby/Janet Mulero – We had 19 Club members volunteer at our Witches and Warlock Ball on October 30. Thank you to all our volunteers and those members who purchase off our Amazon wish list. We raised $790 in door receipts and $133 from our 50/50. We were blessed to receive a $500 donation toward the cost of Christmas gifts to be distributed at our December dance. Hoping to see everyone on November 20th for our Shrek-themed Friendsgiving dance. Volunteers are needed at 3:30 to help set up, 5:00 for welcome area and serving, and 8:00 for clean up.

Awareness & Prevention: Maddie Stapleton – Providence House:
The DSVAP group packed 10 treat-or-treat buckets with lots of goodies such as: Cheese-Its, beanie babies, play dough, granola bars, chips, toys, peanut butter crackers, and let's not forget candy. 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 a can or two of a creamed soup like cream of chicken soup.

A/B Canned Creamed Soups,
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.

Intergenerational: **Joyce Huffert and Dolores Martinez –** There will be an Intergenerational decorative painting event at the Pheasant Run Clubhouse, 45 Canterbury Drive, Forked River on December 16th from 10 to 12. Materials will be provided. There will be a signup sheet in the back. Please see Dolores for more information**.**

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

EDUCATION & LIBRARIES

Bridge of Books: Debbie Smith – Hope everyone had a great summer! We will again be collecting gently used children's books to donate to the nonprofit Bridge of Books. Please ask your neighbors, children, and grandchildren to give us their used books before throwing them out. We donated over 1500 books last December and would love to do it again. You can bring them to meetings or drop off at Activity Day. This will continue until the end of November. Thank you for your support.

Read Across America: Debbie Smith -.

Poster Contest: Christine Russell -

Monthly Book Club: Nancy Conway/Maria Kowalewski
The book club will meet on Tuesday, November 17th at 12:00. We will be discussing "The Art Thief" by Michael Finkel.

Scholarships: Kathy Cook/Christine Russell - The scholarship committee worked to revise the criteria for the Woman's Club of Lacey Scholarship and presented the revisions to the Board at the November 3rd meeting. The scholarship is available to high school seniors that are residents of Lacey Township. Children and grandchildren of Woman's Club members will be given priority. If you have a child or grandchild that is a Lacey Township resident that will be graduating from high school this year, please encourage them to apply for our scholarship. Please also let Kathy Cook know his or her name so the committee can look for and prioritize the application once they are received from the high school guidance office. The committee will meet sometime in the spring to review the applications and choose 6 of the applicants to receive scholarships.

Girls Career Institute Darlene Johnson/Diana Monia -
Darlene and Diana will contact the Lacey High School and set up a date for us to interview the students. After we choose two students and one alternate, we will contact their parents and emphasize the commitment of GCI and the paperwork that the parents must fill out, and get notarized. This paperwork must be received by GCI by March 15th. We will request a check for $800 and make sure it is received before January 31st. Two of the students selected will attend GCI June 2nd – 5th.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Conservation: Joyce Huffert/Diane Moser – Thanks to all who contributed to our coat collection. We collected 282 coats and over 100 scarves, gloves and hats! We also weeded, mulched, and planted daffodils in the raised bed in front of the community center. We also moved the plaque that we had from the tree that was planted in Gille Park to the community center.

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

HEALTH & WELLNESS

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 the October meeting, 62 miscellaneous items were collected for the Food Bank.
Thank you.

Operation Smile: Carol La Velle –Wishing everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving. I am collecting all year for the children of Operation Smile. I appreciate all that
you donate to them.

STANDING COMMITTEES

CARING CORNER: Diane Moser –
No cards were sent out since our last meeting. If anyone needs to have a card sent to one of our members, please let me know. Thank you.

COMMUNICATIONS

Communications – Jo Facciolli-
Please make sure I have your email, so you are kept up to date on the goings on of the club

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

Website: Jo Facciolli-
Please visit www.womanscluboflacey.org and make sure your department 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 Facciolli-
If you are planning an event, please let me know so I can add it to the calendar of events.
Facebook/Instagram: Jo Facciolli- 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 – Thank you all for submitting your text for the newsletter. It's much appreciated. Happy Thanksgiving.

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 Wishing you all a Happy Thanksgiving

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:

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

ACHIEVEMENT DAY: Joan Schuler – Copies of the projects with instructions will be available at the meeting.

ACTIVITY DAY: Lina Kazala – Thank you for supporting Activity Day. This is a fun social day, and we are exercising our brains with card playing and Mah Jong games and enjoying snacks and friendship. We play on Mondays 12 to 3 pm at 15 E. Lacey Road. Come join us.

FUNDRAISING: Lori Young
Nothing to report

Bunco Fundraiser – We are planning another Bunco afternoon. January 10th, 2027, $15. Per person. Prizes, 50-50, coffee, tea and dessert. Signup sheet and possibly tickets will be available at the meeting. 40 tickets will be available. Jo.

SPECIAL STATE PROJECT – Cathy Katsianis -
Date for our Fashion Show is April 15, 2027
Fashions by Boscov
Location is Argos Farm
Time is 4 -8pm
$40 ticket price includes appetizers and dessert
Wine available for purchase
Basket Raffles and 50-50
Fundraiser is for Embrella, an organization that supports foster children and their kinship families

Calendar Club: Debbie Terry/Carol Candeletti –
Calendar Club raffle ticket sales have begun. About 110 tickets have been handed out to members. The sale of tickets will continue until the end of December 2026, so please stop by and see me at the October meeting and pick up a few tickets to sell or buy. No need to pay immediately just get back to me with the stubs and payments when you can before the end of December. If you can't sell them, you can always return them to me by the end of the year. I am looking forward to a successful fundraiser again this year and bringing joy through a scholarship to a few deserving high school seniors in Lacey!

Monthly Raffle:
Gift card winner $50. Kathy Baretts
50/50 won by Lina Kazala $140.

Social Group : Barbara Bowen- Sign-up sheets for the Social group activities coming up will be available. Those who went to the Cape May Zoo had a great time with good weather, followed by a wonderful lunch. The very best was our visit to Howling Wolves reserve.
We have pictures on our phones if you would like to see them.

Trips : Barbara Bowen- Our last play at Surflight Holiday Inn is on December 6. I will have the tickets at the meeting. I have the names of the 4 plays we will be attending in 2027 with prices & dates. Probably in

February I will have sign-up sheets. Information about each play will be on the tables. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

NOVEMBER 19 – Tour the Hindu Temple in Windsor, NJ.
NOVEMBER 21 – Holiday at the Playhouse Bus Trip
DECEMBER 2 – Bell Works Christmas Markets
JANUARY 26 – Ceramics Painting in Bayville, NJ

BIRTHDAYS

NOVEMBER

Imelda Fragomeni	11/02
Lillis Campbell	11/05
Debra Gamsby	11/10
Sandy DeYonker	11/14
Kathie Meyer	11/17
Dolores Martinez	11/18
Peggy Bea	11/19
Barbara Price	11/26
Valerie Negra	11/29
Judy Schermerhorn	11/30

DECEMBER

Carol Jones	12/03
Eleanor DelVecchio	12/08
Robin O'Brien	12/10
Karen Perks	12/10
Joan Engelhardt	12/16
Jo Facciolli	12/17
Kathie Meyer	12/17
Jackie Stephens	12/18
Carol LaVelle	12/23
Carol Candeletti	12/29
BJ Graham	12/29