



Woman's Club of Lacey Shore District NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2026



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – MARIA KOWALEWSKI

Welcome Fall! Welcome crisp air, pumpkins, apple picking and mums. The trees and flowers are going to sleep, but the Women's Club is not. We have so much we can do for the Community. Thanksgiving Baskets and Christmas gifts for those in need. Don't forget to bring your items for the stockings for the military. We will be filling the stockings after the October meeting. October is Breast Cancer awareness month. Hopefully, you are all getting your mamos when they are due. We will be giving out pink ribbon pins at the meeting to show our support. Wear pink to the meeting, if you can. Calendar Club tickets are on sale. Please be generous. Think of stocking stuffers for kids and grandkids. We would like to raise enough funds to be able to give four \$1,000 scholarships to Lacey High School graduates.

Looking forward to seeing you at the meeting. I have much to tell you about what our Club has been doing since our last meeting.

1ST VICE PRESIDENT, KAREN MARTENAK - All dates for Women's Club events and meetings have been decided and confirmed for 2027.

Members are invited to stay after the October meeting to assemble Christmas stockings for the military. Before the November meeting, the Ocean County health department will be available to provide flu vaccines for women club members. A representative of Embrella will be the speaker at the November meeting. They will explain their mission and purpose.

2nd VICE PRESIDENT, JO FACCIOLLI – **October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month** - You are never too old to perform a breast self exam each month. In the event you find something unusual, please contact your physician

Reports

Please continue to document the activity of your departments and fundraisers.

3RD VICE PRESIDENT, CAROL LA VELLE There is one guest coming to our meeting. If anyone is bringing a guest, please let me know.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, JACKIE STEPHENS – Happy Fall! October is breast cancer awareness month. Remember to get your mammograms.

RECORDING SECRETARY, LORI VIRCILLO – Enjoy this great fall weather. I will report at the meeting.

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

Treasurer's Report, JOAN SCHULER

A special thank you to Alice Riggs, Rae Mauri, Debbie Terry and Terry Acquavita for taking the time to review the Treasurer's checkbooks for the year. I am happy to report to the members that they found everything to be in order.

FEDERATION SECRETARY – LORI YOUNG

The State Fall Conference is scheduled for Monday, October 19th at the Harbor Point (former Lobster Shanty) in Point Pleasant. The State has launched the New Jersey Women's Clubs Podcast! The podcast will showcase NJSFWC initiatives, highlight leaders past and present, and celebrate our incredible legacy – and future – of volunteerism. The first episode, hosted by NJSFWC Communications Chair Katie Chambers, features an interview with 2026-2028 President Susan Chambers discussing plans for this administration. You can listen and subscribe on [Spotify](#), [Apple](#), [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#)!

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:

Happy Fall! There are pumpkins everywhere. Would you like to add to the pumpkin décor? After the General meeting I have the supplies to make chenille pumpkins in two different sizes. If you want to join in, please stay after the meeting. You only need to stay long enough to get the supplies and instructions, the rest could be done at home. It would be nice to have the finished pumpkins on our tables for the November meeting.

ARTS PERFORMING: Chris Urban/Jeanne Scaffidi

Chris Urban purchase an electric piano for use at nursing homes when the Merrilee Singers go there. It was paid for by a Contribution from Justine Weinberg's husband as well as donations from the Merrilee Singers.

The Merrilee Singers will be performing the Star Bangled Banner at our October General Meeting.

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:

October 13, 20
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 Faccioli - 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 Faccioli - 9 blankets have been donated to the NJ Sharing Network in September.

Wreaths Across America : Jo Faccioli.

Wreaths Across America - The status of WAA will be discussed at the October meeting, however if you are interested in donating a wreath, please use the form on the website or see Jo Faccioli at the meeting.

Holiday Stockings: - Laura McDonald

Adults with Special Needs: Debra Gamsby/Janet Mulero – Our September Disco Dance was a great success. We hosted 129 special needs adults and their caregivers. We raised \$881 in door receipts and donations to defray the cost the dance and \$122 for the charitable fund. We had such great participation from our Club members this month -- 19 in total! Special thanks to those members who arrived early to help with set up. Next month is Witches and Warlocks on October 30. If you would like to volunteer to help, please give Debra Gamsby or Janet Mulero a call to join the committee.

Awareness & Prevention: Maddie Stapleton – Providence House:

Intergenerational: Joyce Huffert and Dolores Martinez – Nothing to report

Pinwheel Garden: Pinwheels for Prevention-Prevent Child Abuse: Jackie Stephens.
Happy Fall! Enjoy the beautiful fall colors.

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

Happy Fall! Literature will meet on Tuesday, October 20th At NOON. We will be discussing 'The Wedding People. Judy S. and Terry have refreshments. We are also choosing books for the next year. Check out the lists for the ones you want to read.

Scholarships: Kathy Cook/Christine Russell-

Girls Career Institute Darlene Johnson/Diana Monia .

The Girls Career Institute held a zoom meeting that I attended. Ellen Lund directed the meeting. The purpose of the session was to review dates and discuss the process in order for Chairs to assist the two chosen students and one alternate student, and their parents. We, Darlene Johnson and Dianna Monia, will contact the Lacey High School to start the process.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**Conservation: Joyce Huffert/Diane Moser –**

Coat Drive September 9 to October 31, 2026
We are holding a coat drive with Your Grandmother's Cupboard. Gently worn children and adult donations should be clean and wearable, freshly laundered, no holes or stains and no broken zippers or missing buttons. We are also collecting hats, gloves and scarves. Drop off locations are WCOL general meeting, Charles Smith Community Center (Mondays only 12:00-3:00 PM) and Retro Fitness Gym in Lacey. Thank you.

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 the September meeting, 69 miscellaneous items were collected for the Food Bank. Thank you.

Operation Smile: Carol La Velle – Two very large boxes filled with all sorts of items were sent to Operation Smile. The approximate value was \$350. Thank you everyone for your support. Also, we partnered with Lacey High School Cheerleaders & they donated crayons coloring books.

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 Faccioli-**

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 – Happy Fall, everyone!

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:**SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

ACHIEVEMENT DAY: **Joan Schuler** – I will make copies of NJSFWC instructions for projects which WCOL may wish to consider for presentation at this event which takes place in April. There are many to choose from.

ACTIVITY DAY: **Lina Kazala** - Ladies this is a reminder that early voting has taken away the following play dates. We do NOT play on Mon. Oct 26, Tue, 27, Mon, Nov 2 & Tue. Nov. 3. All other days remain as on your schedule. Thanks.

FUNDRAISING: **Lori Young**

BAKE SALE UPDATE -- The September bake sale at the Farmer's Market raised \$220, making our total for three months \$919. We were sold out in only 90 minutes. Thanks to all who baked and staffed our booth. Our success is only due to the outstanding participation of our members.

BUNCO - October 11th, 1:00 p.m.
October 11th, 1:00 p.m. We will have a report at the October general meeting

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 for Wawa – ?
50/50 won by Judy Schermerhorn \$130

Social Group : Barbara Bowen

Happy Halloween. Money (\$81) is due for our last play of the year, Holiday Inn at Surfflight followed by dinner at Lefty's.

On a separate issue, there will be notices at the table asking for letters or phone calls to Governor Sherrill about the following important issue. A challenge against the NESE pipeline project was successful for the 3rd time in the courts, but NESE will appeal again. This pipeline will greatly affect the water quality in the Raritan Bay as well as plant & animal life. This will affect us in our area also. I wish you could have heard Anne Quinn explain it at our Retired Pres. meeting. She brought us to tears. Please read the info on the table.

Trips : Barbara Bowen

OCTOBER 15 – Jacks and Lights at Argos Farm

OCTOBER 27 – Cape May Zoo

NOVEMBER 4 – Howling Wolf Farm in Jackson, NJ.

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

OCTOBER

Denise Cosenza-Brisco	10/1
Jeanne Scaffiddi	10/1
Lori Young	10/2
Dawn Korman	10/2
Sheri Prato	10/3
Mary O'Malley	10/5
Denise Froberg	10/7
Maria Kowalewski	10/12
Marge Gerba	10/19
Cathy Katsianis	10/25
Diane Moser	10/27
Christine Urban	10/30

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