



April 2026 Newsletter

NJSWFC of GFWC

MEWC - College District



A letter from
Laurel Dobalo,
President, MEWC
(ldobalo@gmail.com)

Spring is a time of fresh starts! And the Metuchen Edison Women's Club is embarking on our own fresh start with the election of new leadership for the Club.

At our May meeting, we will elect a new Board. This edition of our newsletter includes all of the nominees, the positions they wish to hold and the responsibilities of each position. Please take some time to review so you are prepared to vote.

The first part of 2026 has been a great success! We raised over \$3,000 from our raffles, the Mahjong Tournament in March and our Garage Sale. We had many social events including seeing the play "Mame", playing Monster Golf, seeing movies, book club and enjoying lunches and dinners with each other. Many of us enjoyed Spring Conference together and participated in Achievement Day.

We helped our community by making sandwiches for Elijah's Promise, sponsoring Bingo at the Menlo Park Veteran Home, helping at the Easter celebration at Hartwyk Rehabilitation and Nursing Home, donating goods and working at the College District Day of Service in January and making blankets and gowns at the Operation Smile Day of Service in April. Also in April, we presented a check for \$2,100 to Homes for Veterans, an organization that provide housing assistance, mortgage benefits, and home modifications for veterans in New Jersey.

We can look forward to a bowling outing, a visit to BapsSwaminarayan Askhardham Temple and our end of year celebration which will include a tribute to our 65th Anniversary, presentation of awards and the induction of our new Board.

I want to thank all of you for the hard work you have done to make a meaningful impact in our community. It has been an honor to serve as your President and I look forward to working with the new administration to continue the success of MEWC.



Mary Ann McGuigan Speaker at the February Meeting

We were inspired by our accomplished member Mary Ann McGuigan — author of four novels, numerous short stories, and a National Book Award finalist — as she shared the story of her lifelong drive to become a published author. Her powerful storytelling explores community, family, and the moments that shape our lives. Additionally, we welcomed 2 new members to our MEWC community.



Dr. Aparna Kamulkar Speaker at the March Meeting

We were honored to welcome Dr. Aparna Kamulkar, founder and clinical director of Prana Physical Therapy & Wellness, to our March MEWC meeting. She delivered an energizing, relatable discussion on the importance of pelvic health, sharing practical and empowering takeaways that truly resonated with our members. Her insights into how pelvic health supports whole-body well-being were inspiring, and her message ignited great conversation and a renewed focus on wellness throughout the room. Contact information provided below.

Phone – 1-650-773-6648

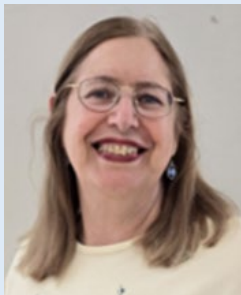
eMail – info@pranapelvicpt.com

Web – WWW.pranapelvicpt.com

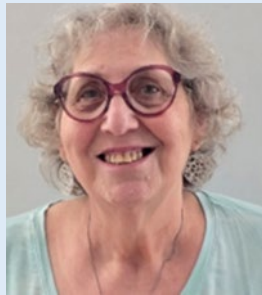
President

Candidates for Co-Presidents

Jane Becker



Adrienne Fowler

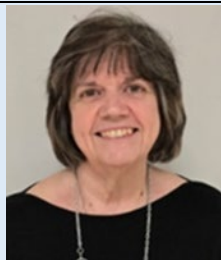


Responsibilities:

- Presides at all meetings of the club and the Executive Board
- Has general supervision of all club affairs
- Ex-officio member of all committees except committee on nominations
- Sends out monthly meeting bulletin and general information to all members
- Attend District Meetings and bring information back to the club

1st Vice President

Candidate



Florence Ruvolo

Responsibilities:

- Acts in place of the President in her absence
- Program Chairman - organize speakers for monthly meetings
- Social Activities Chairman - organizes social opportunities for club members outside of monthly meetings.
- Keeps an accounting of our activities to report to Federation

2nd Vice President

Candidate



Vincenza Eccleston

Responsibilities:

- Membership Chairman maintains guest log and name tags for meetings, maintains information sheets on new members, inducts new members, communicates with prospective members to encourage them to join organizes recruitment opportunities
- Yearbook management
- Chairs holiday and end-of-year parties.
- Keeps an accounting of membership activities to report to Federation

Recording Secretary

Candidate



Nellya Kogan

Responsibilities:

- Keeps correct records of the General Meetings.
- Issue minutes to all members within 10 days of the meeting.
- Keeps correct records of the Executive Committee meetings.
- Issue minutes with one week of the meeting.

Corresponding Secretary

Candidates – Vote for One



Maribeth Hugelmeyer



Kathy Soucek

Responsibilities:

- In charge of all official correspondence including thank you notes to external persons/organizations who present at our meetings and those who assist in our fundraising activities
- Communicates all information shared with the general membership to all members without email via phone and mail.
- Acknowledges members with birthday cards, thinking of you cards and get-well cards, whatever is needed.
- Responsible for Post Office Box

Treasurer

Candidate



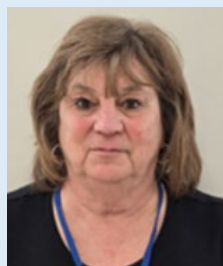
Mary Ann
McGuigan

Responsibilities:

- Manages the bank accounts of the Club
- Receives all money and dues, keeps a record of all receipts and disbursements
- Presents a financial report at each Club meeting
- Presents a financial report at Executive Board meetings
- Presents a yearly report at the May meeting including a Budget for the upcoming year
- Presents her books for financial review in May to the financial review committee

Financial Secretary

Candidate



Carol August

Responsibilities:

- Researches and oversees fundraising ideas/events
- Responsible to secure all raffle licenses
- Submits a final report on all fundraisers

**Vote for the candidate in which you have the most confidence.
They will lead us throughout the next few years.**

Elections will take place on May 13 our usual Meeting date. Please plan on attending.



Monster Golf Saturday fun on March 14

Environmental Committee Update

We will be planting the flowers in the flower boxes at the Metuchen train station on Sunday, May 17, 2026, at 10am. It is a fun time. Usually takes about an hour. All are welcome.

Volunteers to water the plants throughout the summer are still needed. Contact Judy Garni if you are interested.

Health & Wellness

We are looking forward to warmer weather allowing for us to resume our walks on the Greenway in Metuchen. Volunteers to lead this initiative are needed since Dawn DeHart and Vinnie Eccleston are stepping down from this program. If you are interested, please contact them or reach out to one of our officers.

Education and Libraries

May 6, the book club will meet to discuss "The Inmate" by Freida McFadden. Please join us.

"How to solve Your Own Murder" by Kristen Perrin and "Theo of Golden" by Allen Levi are the next books we will be reading. Dates to be announced.

The Education Live program will continue with reading at the pre-school on May 10. We hope for a second location as more readers volunteer. If interested please contact Annette Klimerman.



Janice Pawlo and Laurel Dobalo attended the Operation Smile Day of Service at Headquarters on April 13. The Operation Smile Director spoke as did a survivor of Cleft Palate. Operation Smile was instrumental in her success. In addition to the speakers, we made hospital gowns and blankets for their young clients.



January 26

Members came together to make up Lunch Bags for Elijah's Promise!



A spirited group of MEWC members spent the afternoon at Music Mountain Theatre in Lambertville, enjoying a fabulous production of Mame. The show was a hit, and so was the time spent together. Experiences like this are what make our club so special — friendship, community, and a little bit of adventure.

Key Date May thru June

MEWC CALENDAR OF EVENTS				
DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT	DETAILS
Mon-Wed	5/4-5/6/26	10am	NJSFWC Convention	Hark Rock Hotel & Casino. 1000 Boardwalk Atlantic City, NJ
Wed	5/6/2026	6pm	Book Club	Panera's 1551 Rt 1 South. Edison NJ
Tues	5/12/2026	7pm	Movie: Devil Wears Prada Part 2	Menlo Mall AMC Theater
Wed	5/13/2026	7pm	May Monthly Meeting	American Legion 17 Calvin Place, Metuchen
Sat	5/16/2026	10:30am	Sorting for Moms Helping Moms	Laurel's House 2 Oak Ave, Metuchen
Sun	5/17/2026	10am	Plant flowers at the train station	Metuchen Train Station NY bound side
Tues	5/19/2026	1:30	Bingo for Vets	Menlo Park Veterans Home
Tues	5/21/2026	2pm	Knitting/crocheting	Jane's House
Wed	6/10/2026	6:30pm	June Meeting-end of year celebration	Gabrielles, Piscataway, NJ
Fri	6/12/2026	8:30am	Mahjongg Tournament	American Legion, Edison, NJ
Fri	6/19/2026	10-11:30am	Outing to Temple	Baps Swaminarayan Askhardham. Robbinsville, NJ

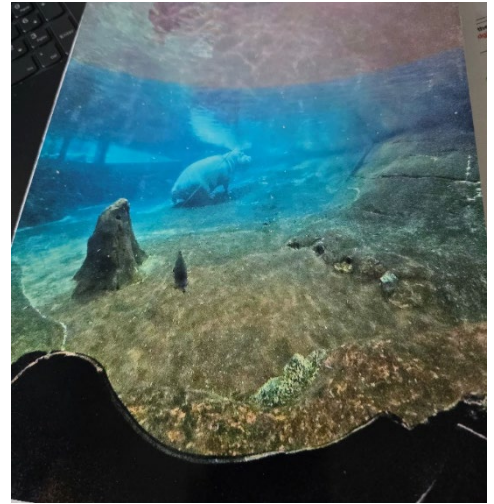


2026 Spring Conference & Achievement Day

Laurel Dobalo hosted this event at the Somerville Elks. President-elect Susan Chambers was the keynote speaker. At this luncheon District Achievement Awards for reporting in various categories were awarded. Club members in the College District were recognized by their clubs for their achievements with the presentation of Honor Roll, and Order of the Lilly Awards. President Dobalo received such an honor.

Achievement Day Contest

A Sampling of Winners



Our Club Meets for Lunch & Dinner

Once a Month

Every Other Month!

Watch for Announcements
and Join Us for Dining Fun!



New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs of GFWC News



Summer Luncheon and Basket Raffle

JOIN US FOR AN AFTERNOON OF FRIENDSHIP AND FUN!

Great Food, Baskets Galore, 50/50 and Silent Auction

AUGUST 6, 2026. 11:30 AM – 3:30 PM

BATTLEGROUNDS COUNTRY CLUB MANALAPAN, NJ

Price is \$70. Bring your check to the May meeting made out to MEWC.



If you have an idea, activity or recognition you would like to recommend, please send us a note. You can contact Carol Wludyka or any of the officers in the Metuchen Edison Women's Club.