



# News & Views

GFWC / CFWC

Hacienda Heights Women's Club

P.O. Box 5565, Hacienda Heights, CA 91745

President: Angie Valenzuela  
Editors: Mary Tang & Valerie Tang  
[douea@aol.com](mailto:douea@aol.com)  
(626) 274-2946

## February 2026

*The creation of a thousand forests is in one acorn.*

Dear Ladies,

Our February 5th Club Meeting centers on the theme of Love and Kindness, a fitting focus during the Valentine season and a wonderful reminder of the power compassion has in our daily lives and in our community. We are excited to welcome a wonderful lineup of speakers who will share meaningful insights on the importance of kindness and the many ways it can uplift, connect, and inspire us.

This theme fits perfectly with our club motto: "In all things, Charity; in good things, Unity." As we come together in friendship and service, may we continue to lead with open hearts, support one another, and extend kindness beyond our meetings and into the communities we serve.

Thank you for all that you do to make our club a place of generosity, fellowship, and purpose. I look forward to seeing you on February 5th.

Warmly,

Angie Valenzuela

President, Hacienda Heights Women's Club



### Announcements

- Annual Membership Dues of \$40 are payable in February, March, or April. Make check out to HHWC. Delinquent after April meeting.
- Nominating Committee of five (5) members, of which two (2) are elected from the Executive Board, to produce the 2026-2027 slate of officers. Parliamentarian will administer..

~~ February ~~

Thurs., 2/5	WC General Meeting "Love and Kindness" Marie Callender's, 1560 Albatross, City of Industry, 11 am * Hostesses: Betty C, Betty Y, and Gwen * Inspiration: Betty C * Patriotic Moment/Pledge of Allegiance: Irene * Nominating Committee * Annual Dues Payable \$40
Fri., 2/13	HHCC Lunar New Year, 6-8 pm
Fri., 2/13	SGVD District Meeting
Sat., 2/14	Valentine's Day
Mon., 2/16	Presidents' Day
Thurs., 2/19	WC Board Meeting
Sat., 2/21	Kindness Angel Luncheon 11-2 pm, Grace Black CC, El Monte
Thurs., 2/26	HHCC Black History Month, 6-8 pm

*Next Meeting: Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, Marie Callender's, 11 am*

*Hostesses : Irene, Rita, & Rachel - Inspiration: Tracy - Patriotic Moment & Pledge: Mary T*

**Program** - Lucy

**Jim Kleinpell** is now the new Executive Director of Meals on Wheels. Meals on Wheels is a "Kindness" volunteer program which provides daily meals to home bound seniors in need throughout many communities. Many seniors look forward to their deliveries, not only for the meals, but also the volunteers, who may be the only person they see all week. The interaction may be short but means the world to them. Perhaps you know of someone who is homebound or you may be interested in volunteering.

**Marissa Cabeza**, Director of home liaison HLPUSD Equity & Access, serves students in need. This "Kindness" program accepts tangible donations of clothing, personal hygiene items, gift certificates, gently worn shoes and school supplies for youths.

**David Malkin**, of "Heart and Sole" aka "Shoes That Fit" will be with us to accept the donation of new socks and our Club \$500 check for purchase of shoes. Thank you ladies for your love, generosity, and kindness!

**Galentine's Party** - Katie

Come one, come all! Let's celebrate our Gal Pals at a Galentine's Party.

Wednesday, February 25, 2026, 3-5 pm, 14410 Cabinda Drive, HH. Bring an appetizer to share. If you know someone who might be interested in joining the HHWC, this is a great opportunity to bring them and see what we're all about.



### ***Heart and Sole / Shoes That Fit - Rita & Angie***

The Hacienda Heights Women's Club is proud to support "Heart and Sole / Shoes That Fit", a program that helps students in the Rowland Unified School District, Hacienda Heights, La Puente, Industry, Covina, Walnut, and South San Jose Hills schools.

At our February 5th General Meeting, we will be collecting:



#### **NEW SOCKS (Grades K–12)**



In addition, the club will present a check to David Malkin to support the Shoes That Fit program, which provides new shoes to students in need. Proper footwear plays an important role in a child's confidence, comfort, and ability to fully participate in school. Your generosity make a meaningful difference in the lives of these students. Thank you in advance for your continued support and generosity.

### ***Valentine's Day Cards - Andrea***

We all loved the project presented by Leslie Ann at our December Holiday meeting. Holiday cards for our active military service members was a great idea and one which we will continue. We thought we should expand on that great idea, so we decided to prepare Valentine's Day cards at our February meeting. The HHWC will partner with Meals on Wheels in our area to hand deliver the cards to their seniors and disabled along with their meals. We confirmed with Meals on Wheels that they deliver around 100 meals on a regular basis. Each of us will need to bring several cards so that we have enough cards for all.



### ***School District Resource Center Donation - Andrea***

Our local school district has approximately 1000 students identified as homeless. These students utilize the district's resource center for some of their basic needs. Since this is an ongoing need, we have decided to collect the basics/hygiene products & snack items at every meeting and these items will be delivered directly after each meeting to the resource center. Because students are homeless, they don't have the ability to carry or store large amounts of any basic product. Items like tissue, handy wipes, laundry soap, hand or body lotion, shampoo or hair conditioner, hand sanitizer, mouth wash, body soap, deodorant and anti-perspirant and small sized snack items of any type are examples of the items which will help them. Please bring items with you and we will have a bag or box available for your donations.

Try the Freeosk Vending Machines. Freeosks are examples of technology touching our daily lives. These samples vending machines are in every Sam's Club. Each week they feature a different sample product. Just scan your membership card and the machine will dispense a sample sized product... and sometimes it is even cookies, candy, crackers or protein bars. Each week when I shop, I get samples and drop them in a bag. I will bring that bag to each of our meetings for delivery to the resource center for our homeless students at the school district. Check your store to see what samples they may have available and add those items to our school resource donation bag at every meeting.

***KINDNESS: Quality of being friendly, generous, and considerate - Carol***

Every month, our server, **Daniel**, sets up the chairs & tables, delivers our lunches, brings drinks, clears the tables and provides us with take home containers. Last month he also helped several of our members carry items to their cars. So, as a show of appreciation, let's surprise him with a valentine with a cash tip! There will be box for your gift to Daniel on the table under the window.

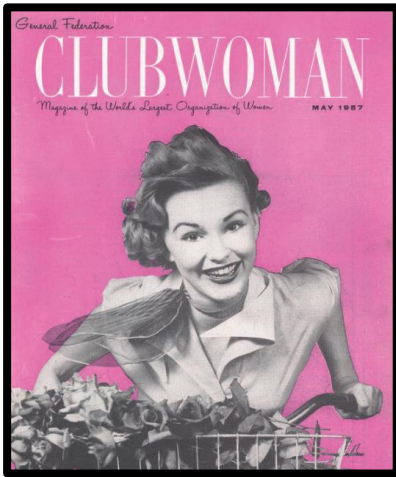
***Penny Pines Reforestation Program - Carol***

**Thank You! Thank You!** At our January meeting we collected a little over \$300 in donations from our White Elephant Sale! That money will be donated to the Penny Pines Reforestation Program.

A little history: In 1941, the first Penny Pines was sponsored by San Francisco Women's Association. At the start of the program, seedlings could be produced for about one cent each. Approximately 680 seedlings were used to plant a typical acre. Over the years many Women Clubs have contributed more than a million dollars to the Penny Pines Reforestation Program. This program plays a vital role in renewing our national forests!!



***CLUBWOMAN of the YEAR - Carol***



It's time to choose our Clubwoman of 2025. There will be a nomination box at the February meeting.

Please consider who should be honored:

1. Accomplishments from January to December 2025
2. Must be a club member for one year
3. Offices and committees held
4. Projects chaired
5. Activities include club only

After the meeting, Mary T and I will count the nominations. The Clubwoman of the year will be honored at Convention in April.

(\*image from GFWC Clubwoman magazine 1957 Convention)

***Love is in the air - Rita and Tracy tell how they met their spouses.***

**How I Met Joe - Rita**

I was 16 years old when I first met my future husband. He was 20 years old. It was at my cousin's wedding. I thought he was handsome and charming. He thought of me as his friend's "little sister". We danced and I had an immediate crush on him, but at the afterparty, he brought a date. My heart was broken for about 1 day.

Fast forward 6 years. We met again at my sister's annual 4th of July party. He was a teacher and I was about to become one in the fall. One of my CSULA class assignment was to interview a teacher. I asked him if I could interview him. We made plans to meet on campus at CSULA where he was taking post graduate classes. He turned that meeting into a date. We dated off and on for 6 years, and finally married. That was almost 47 years ago. We have a beautiful life together, along with 3 sons and 4 grandchildren!



**Set up to meet one guy, ended up with another. - Tracy**

Norman and I talked on the phone for 6 months before we met face-to-face. We both worked in financing at different banks, and would call one another for credit checks. He worked in Glendale; my office was downtown Los Angeles. Absolutely loved talking to him. Many of my coworkers loved bowling Thursday nights. Out of the blue, they asked me to join them. What I didn't know was they wanted to set me up with a friend of theirs. I was very nervous; I was a terrible bowler! My friend introduced me to the team we were bowling against; it happened to be Norman's team. The guy they wanted to set me up with, Greg, was also on that team. Norm and I just clicked. He asked me out to dinner the following week. We have been together ever since. Dated for almost 5 years before we married. We will celebrate our 34th anniversary in May.

***Diana Wood - Mary T***



Diana passed peacefully on January 23rd, surrounded by family and friends. Derek, her husband, reached out to many in the club who knew Diana. She was born in England and had a dramatic flair. A people person, she loved everyone; greeting each with warmth and a big smile. Diana always drove around town in a sports car; a new one every 3 years! (Her son owned a sports car dealership.) She was active in the community and many charitable organizations in Hacienda Heights prior to moving to Lake San Marcos. Diana was a gracious hostess, opening her home for club meetings and gatherings. She was Club President from 1998-2001 and from 2003-2005 for a total of 5 years; held many offices and committee chairs. At the District level, she was Recording

Secretary, Financial Secretary and Publicity Chair. Diana mentored many new club members. We shall all remember her as a beautiful person, inside and out.

***5K Walk - Save the Date, April 25, 2026***

We are a \$1,000 Gold Sponsor which means we have a table, 8 spots for walkers, and our Club name on T-shirts.



**SHELTER'S RIGHT HAND  
30TH ANNUAL  
5K WALK 2026**

**JOIN US IN  
UPTOWN WHITTIER  
SATURDAY,  
APRIL 25, 2026**

**[sheltersrighthand.org](https://sheltersrighthand.org)**

## January Highlights



Ampe made beautiful gift baskets for raffle



1/9 District meeting, Ampe, Mary, Connie with District President Gina Morales. District Birthday Council at Grace Black Auditorium in El Monte



Connie among first-timers to District meeting



Andrea received commendations as outgoing HHIA Board Member



1/26 - Ladies at HHIA meeting in Community Center



## January meeting (1/8)

February 2026

January entertainers, the Los Angeles Sheriff Band. They were great!



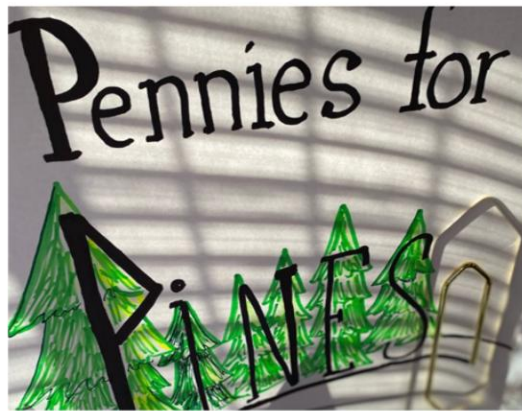
Rachel shared thank you notes from military families at Fort Irwin for making Spirits Bright gifts



Kim was a lucky winner



Two truths and a lie – Katie tested Carol, Edna, and Lucy



New Year decorations and White Elephant Sale for Penny Pines