



May 2020 Newsletter

Newsletter Editor, Geri Krassowski, gerik2@gmail.com, H (732) 873-1615

May 8 – Deadline for payment of Membership dues and survey return

Upcoming Executive Board Meeting –
Conference Call on Tuesday, May 26 @ 5 pm, check your email for details

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CLUB

The College District of NJSFWC held a virtual Spring Conference and Achievement Day recently. Franklin Woman's Club was honored with wins in several categories including leadership and membership. You can check out the full list of winners in the accompanying attachments. Certificates of Award will be presented in the future.

Also, CONGRATULATIONS to Marilyn Kuna for her 50th years of service to our club.

CONGRATULATIONS to club member, Mary Lou Bak, on her election as Vice-President for the College District of NJSFWC

A Message from Incoming President – Phyllis Beals

Thank you to the officers for 2018-2020!

As incoming president of our club, on behalf of all the members, I want to thank our outgoing officers for their service to the club over the past two years. Thank you to Nancy Hargett & Diane Milgram for capably serving as Co-Presidents. Thank you to Nancy Gale and Kecia Baptist in your roles as VP for Programs & VP for Membership. Thank you to Carolyn Lance for responsibly overseeing our funds (and for agreeing to continue as Treasurer). Thank you to Genie for your willingness to be Corresponding Secretary and it was my pleasure to serve as Recording Secretary. To all the chairpersons and members who helped run service activities, fundraise, publicize &

communicate, plan fun and interesting activities and trips, thank you!

A virtual executive board meeting took place in April and at that meeting, a motion was moved and passed to donate an additional \$500 to the Franklin Food Bank as there are more families needing help during this difficult economic time. In the budget passed last fall by membership, an allocation of \$500 had been included but without a designated charity at that time. This vote was to award those funds to the Franklin Food Bank.

Please be on the lookout for occasional updates during the summer sent via email. Please complete the survey that was emailed last week so YOUR opinions and suggestions may be considered by the Executive Board as plans are made for the next year.

There are openings for Committee Chair positions. Please contact me if you are willing to serve either with someone else or solo.

May you and your families all be safe and healthy. These are unusual and difficult times. The club will continue to carry out its mission and activities, and we want you to be with us.

My email is awpbeals@comcast.net and phone is (732) 331-341

Federation News from College District VP, Mary Lou Bak

I would like to thank all the members of the Franklin Woman's Club for your enthusiastic nomination of me as DVP for the College District! I look forward to bringing the resources of the State Federation to help our Club and the other clubs in the College District. Please feel free to bring any topics to me needing explanation or background information, or support from the State Chairs. Let me also know if you have suggestions for improved communications between Club and Federation, and any other tips which I can benefit from. I am especially glad to be a member of such an energetic and dedicated club as ours, and to bring even more recognition to it at the Federation level. You have already done a wonderful job of bringing focus to the many projects you have supported, and I'm proud to congratulate the Arts Creative, Conservation, Education, Leadership, Legislation/Resolution, Membership, and Women's History Committees for their Reporting Awards, and to all Club members for your support of all this very important work! In addition, I'd like to congratulate Marilyn Kuna on 50 years of service to our Club! She is one of several in the District who have achieved this distinguished continuous level of service.

The Federation will announce the new Special State Project this week, which would have traditionally been announced at Convention if it hadn't been cancelled. That announcement will be forwarded to you when it is made. The June Council at Federation Headquarters is being discussed as to how to hold it, if public gatherings in the state are still restricted then. As many of you know, the Councils at Headquarters are meetings for all members of the College District to learn about areas of special

emphasis such as the Special State Project, and to share information among clubs. We are learning how to share such meetings virtually at this time. More information about that as it becomes available.

Women's History- **Celebrating the Centennial of Women's Right to Vote**

On August 18, 1920, Tennessee became the 36th state to ratify the **19th Amendment**, satisfying the requirement of 2/3 of states needed to officially pass it. On August 26, 1920, the Secretary of State certified the ratification, and the amendment was added to the Constitution. It reads: ***“The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.”*** For a concise timeline and story of the suffrage movement, here is a link to the Congressional Research Service report: <https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/R/R45805>



May birthdays

May 1 - Cindy Downey
May 20 - Karen Hagerman
May 21 - Christine Smith
May 23 - Dolores Giovanniello
May 24 - Fern Watts

Membership -Chair, Kecia Baptist, keciajoy@gmail.com, (732)-221-0510; Assistant, Stephanie Carr, stephpto@comcast.net, (732)-937-4596

If you are planning to renew your membership for the 2020-2021 club year and have not already paid dues, the deadline is **Friday, May 8th**. The cost is \$38 for the general membership and \$28 for life members with 25 or more years of service.

Please mail your check (made payable to **Franklin Woman's Club**) directly to our Treasurer:

Carolyn Lance
24 Susan Dr.
Somerset, NJ 08873

Survey 2019-2020

The new Executive Board really needs your input to help plan for next club year. Please take a few minutes to complete the attached survey and email a copy back to me at keciajoy@gmail.com. If you are unable to access the attachment let me know.

Your response would be appreciated by this **Friday, May 8th**.

If you have any questions regarding dues or the survey, feel free to contact me.

Thanks so much. Stay safe and healthy everyone!

Kecia Baptist
732-221-0510

Ways & Means (Fundraising)

Tricky Tray - Club Contact: Joanne Murset, home 732-220-8617,
cell 908-227-7278 JMurset@hotmail.com

The club has rented a storage unit at the CubeSmart on Veronica Ave and my husband and I have already filled up 3 folding tables there with Tricky Tray prize baskets. We will continue to transport prizes to the unit, utilizing at least 3 more tables plus a combination of cardboard boxes and plastic containers. Thanks to club members (and a personal friend) for loaning us tables indefinitely. We will hold the Tricky Tray as soon as is reasonable, given government guidelines and availability of the school. When we notify ticket holders of the new date, we will give them an opportunity to request a refund. Our aim as the Franklin Woman's Club is to be a force for good in our community, so we will break from the usual Tricky Tray no-refund policy and honor refund requests, whether they be because the new date doesn't work for the attendee, they do not feel comfortable being in a public environment yet, or financial hardship.

Shop Rite Gift Cards

At this time, Shop Rite cards are not being offered. Stephanie Carr will update us in the next newsletter as to when they will be available again.

Activities/Community Service

Please continue to **save pop up tabs** from canned goods and beverages as this is a fundraising source for Ronald McDonald House in New Brunswick. Joy Baptist called to inquire and she is willing to take any donations to RMH. Please drop them (bagged or boxed) at her back door and she will deliver them. Please call Joy Baptist to let her know that you are dropping some off. 732-247-2214, Address is 858 Hamilton Street. Thank you.

Book Club – (evening) Maria Hudak, Chair mhudak0414@yahoo.com.

For April our book selection was “**My Life in France**” written by Julia Child and Alex Prud’homme who is Paul Child’s (her husband) great-nephew. It’s a memoir of Julia Child’s life written in her unique down-to-earth humorous voice. She had two great loves, her husband and France; this book is the love story of both. You’ll learn how she got started cooking, the work that went into preparing her influential cookbook and how that led to her becoming a beloved TV personality.

If anyone is interested in forming a second Book Club please contact Maria Hudak and she’ll help connect another group. A good size is 8 – 10 members but less than 8 works well too.

Another option is the Enlightened Readers Book Group led by club member Lyn Sirota. Meetings are held at the Princeton Integral Yoga Community Center. For more information contact Lyn at lyn.sirota@gmail.com.

Civic Engagement & Outreach Committee -replaces Public Issues Committee

The NJ Primary election was moved to 7/7/20 due to COVID-19 issues. Deadline to register to vote is 6/16/20. A voter must affiliate with the Republican or Democratic Party to vote in a primary. All 435 seats in the House of Representatives will be up for election in November. US Senator Election and President are also on the ballot for 11/3/20. Franklin Woman’s Club, as well as all Federation clubs, remains non-partisan about candidates but members are encouraged to promote civic engagement at all levels of our government, and to be well informed about issues. If you’re interested in advocacy, civic engagement and helping to promote an informed electorate, please consider becoming a part of this committee.

Conservation/Gardening - Nancy Gale, Chair, NancLG@aol.com, Geri Krassowski, Co-Chair, gerik2@gmail.com

There is still time to plant your own garden, even in patio pots! Tell us about your successes the next time we meet. Rutgers Earth Day at Home free webinar series continues on Mondays through June. Check their website to register for the access link.

Education Committee – Tracy Muse, Chair, tracygcm7@gmail.com

A congratulatory letter is being sent to the seniors acknowledging that they have been awarded a scholarship since there will be no recognition of their achievements at a general meeting this year.

Sunshine – Kathy Deily, Chair

If anyone needs SUNSHINE --get well, thinking of you, or sympathy, please e-mail Kathy Deily at kdeily142@yahoo.com

Notes from the Treasurer

Carolyn Lance, Treasurer – kcmlance@verizon.net; (732) 491-1318 (text only); (732) 383-9126 (voice calls)
Pat Kaufhold, Asst. Treasurer – daffodilpat@gmail.com

Please remember to use the appropriate form(s) when:

- Submitting monies to be deposited
- Requesting reimbursement of club expenses
- Requesting a check be cut or a bill paid

(No blank checks will be issued; no exceptions)

Forms are available at all meetings and can also be found online on the Franklin Woman's Club website at <https://www.franklinwomansclub.com/treasurer-s-page>.
A copy of the approved budget is also available on the Club's website at <https://www.franklinwomansclub.com/2018%20-%202019%20Budget.pdf>

Contact Us

Mail - Franklin Woman's Club, College District – NJSFWC
P. O. Box 5793, Somerset, NJ 08875
Email - franklinwomansclub@gmail.com
Website - <http://franklinwomansclub.com>

General Federation of Women's Clubs website - <http://www.gfwc.org>

To obtain a Member ID contact the webmaster at webmaster@njsfwc.org. In your e-mail include our club name (Franklin Woman's Club), district (College), and preferred username. You will receive an email with a temporary password. This individual member login gives you access to a lot of additional information not available to the general public.

New Jersey State Federation Women's Club website- <http://www.njsfwc.org>