

Summer 2021



Leaf Dance by Desiree Reedus, student photography winner 2019-2020



# GFWC California Clubwoman

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## The Magic of New Beginnings

***Destiny Rescue***  
*Saving Children*

***CFWC Past presidents***  
*Legacy of Leadership*

***2021 CFWC Convention***  
*Highlights*

***Mount St Mary's University***  
*Advancing Women*

***The Magical Bridge***  
*A Playground for Everyone*

***Club News***  
*Changing the world*

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Recently I was asked what it was like for me to be your GFWC California State President during a full year of pandemic obstacles? Not one to call anything an obstacle, I believe what they called obstacles are only challenges—so I worked to get to the other end of every challenge to the best of my ability.

To simply say that it has been an interesting year is not enough. We have, as members, faced in numerous ways: fear, loss, separation, isolation, illness, health, happiness, anger, quarantine, and virtual inclusion. That just covers the tip of the iceberg when it comes to what went on during this pandemic. How interesting of a read it will be a hundred years from now when someone reads our Minutes and Journal entries.

I am a firm believer in what is meant to be and that this was my premeditated time to lead. I am happy to be a leader that has carried her lantern high enough for others to follow the footsteps that have been illuminated by the light shining from the brightness my lantern brought to the dark spaces.

I know there are many other light bearers out there as well. Many of our Federation members have held their lanterns high as beacons for lighting a path forward through the last fourteen months. Each of us has been creative and strong because that is what volunteers are. Volunteers are strong enough to create and recreate communities filled with great hope and smiles.

Yes, some of us hold lanterns, others walk the path with us, together we trek on to whatever awaits California in the years to come. Nothing will be the same ever again — we have journeyed through a dark place and come out on the other end with our wits intact. I venture to guess that not one of us ever thought we would be part of a world-wide-pandemic, yet here we are: victorious and strong.

Congratulations on getting through the tunnel, whether you carried a lantern or walked in the light revealed does not matter...what does matter is that together we got to the end of the tunnel and walked out as a State Federation into the sunlight! We will each emerge at our own pace and that is all that matters now, for we can do anything...we have already proved that to ourselves.

Congratulations, we beat the many challenges and we are ready to fly.



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## From the Editor



Dear Reader,

I grew up on the family farm in Corrales, NM—the youngest daughter of 11 children; and, a triplet. Our summers were spent between the farm and our Ranch where we branded cattle, rode quarter horses, and there was a great deal of story telling. Why am I sharing this with you? Well, our Summer issue of the GFWC California Clubwoman Magazine reminds me of those times.

We have articles that will help you better Brand your club and your work in Federation. You can ride along with our State Chairs as they share with you best practices to help you prepare for the re-opening of clubs and the platforms to help you engage all members. Before closing the Magazine, be sure to take a gander at the Club stories of projects, members, and ideas. These stories are not just for a season, but they are stories and ideas you can use year round.

Every article is a product of hard work and reflects the passion of our State leadership, our Journalists, and Clubs! On behalf of OUR team, thank you for your support and for sharing—you truly make the Magazine spectacular. Happy reading!

~Lu Arredondo, Editor

# Leadership Notes



**Barbara Briley-Beard**  
**1st Vice President**

In a perfect world, CFWC moving forward would be a happy place, where we all work on projects together and have fun along the way, helping each other and being kind. The direction I see for us are the old tried and true methods of running our organization. My 10 most upfront thoughts are:

- Be organized, use color coding for club, district, CFWC and GFWC.
- If you write something to someone, own it. Sign and ask for a response in a timely manner.
- Compliment everyone, the old saying goes, "if you don't have anything nice to say, don't say anything at all". A perfect compliment is learning each other's names, then remember them.
- Please put your bylaws in our yearbooks for the clubs and Districts. Then read them often.
- Give members their job descriptions through a procedure book. If you did not one, create one for the next officer to take your place.
- Have snacks available. "Feed them, and they will come"
- Calendar up 2022 now. I am already filling in my calendar for next year, are you?
- Smile, Laugh and Love each other.
- Attend meetings and listen. You will be surprised at the ideas and questions you hear, and how they are answered.
- Have fun as you Volunteer!

As I think about how we can focus on something new, I think about Nike's motto "Just do it". That needs to be us! We cannot be afraid that we aren't doing enough, or too much. Choose your projects and pace yourselves.

As we get back to the face-to-face meetings, keep in mind everything we have learned during the Pandemic. Bring it forward with you.

See you in September at Fall Boards (in person) in San Diego!



**Sonya Matthies**  
**2nd Vice President Membership**

By the time you receive this publication, the California reopening will be well into its 2<sup>nd</sup> month. There is so much to be thankful for and excited about as we move forward. Our local economies will begin to rebuild offering job opportunities, new product platforms, and a new way of conducting B2B transactions and sales.

On the Federation Trail, our CFWC 118th Annual Convention via Zoom was absolutely fabulous! I am so proud of the CFWC Communication Team and their dedication and desire to make this very challenging Convention a reality. We were able to reach many members throughout the State and had a tremendous turn-out of "First Timers"! I could not be prouder of our members and their positive actions during the time of Covid-19. The reports proved that we are resilient! From "Wine and Paint" to "Mani and Pedi Parties" in members back yards, our members kept active and moving!

Now, we begin to move forward into a future that will include Zoom and other online platforms. These platforms will open up workshops and learning to both members who are able to physically attend and to those members, who for various reasons, are not able to attend.

California has reached a point in time where an amazing number of things are possible. Electronic platforms will open doors for business and clubs. Whether you are a business reopening, a service club, or a Federation club - now is the time to keep active and come together! Plan socials and events during the summer, as allowed, to network and add to or improve projects that were put on hold during the restrictive time of Covid-19, or set time to train. Be sure to celebrate anniversaries and members years in Federation or time with the organization. Remember that seasoned members are very important to our organization, new members need nurturing, and prospective members and employees add so much to our future. We all have something special to share and are extremely valuable—as we embrace new concepts and ways of doing things.

Come fly with me and "buzz along" with the CFWC Membership Team as we reach new heights together traveling Federations Trail!



"THE FEEL-GOOD MOVIE OF THE YEAR"  
BRENT SLADE, FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ATHLETES.

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LOOK FOR THE FULL FEATURE ARTICLE ON  
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IN THE OCTOBER ISSUE

## Area News



**Cindy Sanders**  
Area A VP



**Patsy Wilson**  
Area B VP



**Marcia Willett**  
Area C VP



**Wendy Curran**  
Area D VP

### From Horse and Buggy to Hybrid, Meetings of tomorrow

*"I am sure we never have begun to dream of what will yet appear."  
Mary Eastman, Sorosis 21st Anniversary Dinner, 1889*



We have all heard the movie title "Planes, Trains and Automobiles" used in reference to modern transportation. But who knew that "your favorite living room easy chair" would be added to this list of options for attending a meeting or convention? Certainly not the first General Federation of Women's Club members. Our foremothers packed a trunk and traveled by horse and buggy to the nearest train station. After boarding a steam train their journey would often last for

several days in each direction. With the first GFWC Convention held on April 24, 1890, in New York City an exhausting four-day train ride was required to reach the East Coast from California. Not only has how we travel changed, but so has the announcement of where and when. The first women's rights convention held in Seneca Falls, New York on July 19, 1848, was preceded with a published announcement four days prior in the local newspaper. Fast forward 173 years and our Call to Convention arrives electronically in our email inbox. In 2020 the invite evolved to include a link to use ZOOM. GFWC successfully held their first virtual Convention in 2020. Change is beautiful, indeed.

California clubs began embracing the electronic meeting format almost immediately. It was a learning curve to be sure, yet over the past 12 months, we have been able to connect with our members not only in local clubs but in the broader picture at the State level. Members held meetings, conducted workshops and conferences, planned projects, shared information, and kept connected. ZOOM gives the option to continue virtual meetings, workshops and social meetings throughout our state. When we start meeting in-person, we will need to consider a "hybrid" option – sharing the in-person meetings via ZOOM in real time to members who are not comfortable or cannot attend in-person. It will be a key success factor if we want to engage all our members and move forward in our pursuit of helping our communities.

After Covid-19, Face-to-face (FTF) club meetings will probably begin with a whole new perspective: Hybrid meetings – those at which there are attendees in different physical locations (some participants are in the same room and the rest join remotely). If your club, district, or business decides to go Hybrid, everything we have learned about meeting virtually remains relevant. Keep in mind that while your live audience can handle some padding like the transition time between sessions, meal breaks and such, your virtual audience needs to remain engaged from start-to-finish, with engaging and relevant content, agenda, speakers, and interactions. And, your meeting rooms should have a strong Wi-Fi connection to handle multiple environments simultaneously.





**Cindy Sanders**  
Area A VP



**Patsy Wilson**  
Area B VP



**Marcia Willett**  
Area C VP



**Wendy Curran**  
Area D VP

## From Horse and Buggy to Hybrid, Meetings of tomorrow (continued from page 5)

According to Shani Harmon, contributor to Forbes, “The whole point of a hybrid is to combine the best attributes of two good things into a single even better thing.” Plus, there are tools that will enable you to provide in-person and virtual meeting attendees with everything they need to get the most out of your meeting.

- Personalized meeting schedules and meeting content
- Networking and engagement tools
- Live streaming and pre-recorded sessions through ZOOM, YouTube, to Vimeo, and Twitch, with PowerPoint, Drop box. etc.
- Popular engagement tools; session discussions, breakout rooms, live polling and 1 to 1 networking

Researchers say there are drawbacks to virtual meetings, including screen-time fatigue and time-zone scheduling conflicts, but we are extremely creative and adaptable when put under pressure.

What does the future hold for events and meetings? First, we are confident that in-person meetings and events will never go away. They will exist in some form. They may not be as big or grand as they were in the past, but human beings are social animals, and we will always want to have person-to-person contact with one another. However, as we have seen, technology is constantly evolving and continues to become more pervasive for business and personal use.

Everything we are using today will be “old-school” tomorrow and we will need to embrace these changes as they affect our lives. How many of us ever thought of carrying out so much of our work over Zoom but as you read this a replacement or major enhancement for ZOOM is probably being developed as are many new types of technology that we have never imagined. The challenging circumstances of the past year have changed our way of life, they have also revealed new opportunities and possibilities for how we accomplish our goals. More than ever, training and education on the use of these new tools will be necessary to keep our membership active and thriving. Workshops on how to use the new technology will need to become common practice so we can offer our membership multiple ways to participate, whether it be in person, via technology or both. An exciting new world awaits us all. Embrace the Change!



# Community Service Programs and Advancement



## Advocates For Children

Carol Burkhardt, Chair

Summer is here! Time to start planning vacations, club projects, and how in-person meetings will resume. Add to your list GFWC ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN WEEK October 24 to October 30, 2021. During this week, as an organization, we reach out to children in our communities, our nation, and the world.

There are many children in the world in need of help. This is an opportunity to show your creativity by developing a one-day project. Plan now and be ready for October. A drive by food collection for your local food pantry, making fleece blankets for a homeless shelter, collecting personal hygiene items for teen girls in foster care are just a few ideas. An ongoing project could be building, installing and managing a Little Free Library in your community. Collecting new children's books to donate to a preschool or family counseling center would be a worthwhile project. Remember, the GFWC Affiliates always need donations. Start planning now and we will have projects taking place all over California the last week in October, Advocates for Children Week. Everything we do for the children of the world helps create a better future for all.

***If you could give one thing to every child in the world,  
what would it be and why?***



## Arts & Culture

Stephanie Zichichi, Chair

**Excerpt from GFWC Clubwoman Magazine, Winter 2021 issue.**

As we finally get back to "normal" at the end of sheltering in place, think of all the things we can now do in person. There are so many ways to celebrate art and culture in our communities. Some fun ideas to consider include:

- Create kits for children to replicate a library story time. Make a bag for the items and include an art-themed book and all the items needed to make a craft at home.
- Encourage art appreciation by creating an in-person or online art scavenger hunt. You can include specific works of art or general items such as a portrait painting or a sculpture on the list.
- This next school year we can help art, music, drama, dance teachers and students. Many of these are facing challenges this year and may be in need of support and supplies.
- Increase your personal art skills by learning a new craft such as painting, sewing, crocheting, knitting, embroidery, or jewelry making. Choose an international art form such as Chinese origami, Japanese Temari thread balls, or Russian Faberge eggs; learn about its history and how it represents the culture of the area.

Work together if you are able and organize craft days each month. Be inspired and let your creativity and service shine in your community! HAVE FUN.





## Civic Engagement and Outreach

Yolanda Petroski, Chair

As we get ready to move into a new Club year amidst the reopening of California, some of you may be wondering what Civic Engagement looks like and how it helps our local communities.

Civic Engagement can be defined as participating in activities that improve one's local community or even addressing wider social concerns. It means working to make a difference in the life of our community by promoting the quality of life in the community. It can take many forms – from individual involvement to political participation. Women's Clubs have long been a driving force in promoting the issues of citizenship, safety and local concerns among others. In a nutshell, civic engagement means being invested in what happens in your community. Typical examples of civic engagement would be participating in the electoral process, volunteering, and advocacy or activism – all germane to the goals of our organization.

Example of award winning projects from 2020 include:

1. **SLEEPING MATS FOR THE HOMELESS** – GFWC Ebell Club of Irvine created sleeping mats for the homeless by crocheting strips of plastic bags into a 3'x6' mat.
2. **PENNIES FOR A PIG** – GFWC Federated East Valley Woman's Club passed around a "Piggy Bank" at meetings to collect spare change which they used to buy a pig from Heifer International.
3. **JOEY POUCHES FOR AUSTRALIA** – GFWC Mira Mesa Women's Club responded to a call to sew Joey pouches for Koalas, Bats and Sugar Gliders (a palm-size possum) who had been injured in the Australian fires.
4. **STAR REMEMBRANCE PROGRAM** – Wasco Woman's Club partnered with the local VFW in choosing this as a "Done in a Day" Project.
5. **POPPIES FOR THE VFW** – The Woman's Club of Lakeside provided poppies to the Lakeside VFW for Veteran's Day. In total, 8,938 poppies were created.

If you would like to learn about more award winning projects, please reach out to me.



## Domestic & Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention

Diane Waterhouse, Chair

The beginning of the school year can be one of the most exciting times for female college students, but it can also be one of the most dangerous. It marks the start of the "red zone" —from the first day on campus until Thanksgiving break—when the risk of sexual assault is said to be the highest.

More than 50% of college sexual assaults take place between August and November, according to the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network, which advocates nationally against sexual violence. College women ages 18 to 24 are three times more likely, than women in general, to experience sexual violence and they rarely file a report with law enforcement.



Activists criticize the college policies of focusing more on how women can avoid rape (travel in groups, don't put down your drink) and less on discouraging men from committing violence. This victim-blaming increases the likelihood that victims will not report assaults, increasing post-traumatic guilt and stress. Although sexual assault is never the victim's fault, there are steps that can be taken to stay safe:

1. Stick together! If you or your friends are out somewhere and feel uncomfortable, unwelcome or too intoxicated, leave – together!
2. Parents can educate themselves about the school's sexual violence policies before their children step foot on a college campus.
3. Utilize resources created by GFWC and CFWC to help educate and increase awareness.





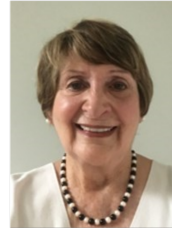
## Education & Libraries

Shirley Lorraine, Chair

Many California clubs are and have been actively supporting local schools with a variety of projects. Many have collected school supplies and filled backpacks for children of both elementary school and middle school ages. Some have supported the creation of playground needs. Some gather and donate books to school libraries. Scholarships have been given. Club members have raised money to support community causes. But we can do more than donate money – we can donate time.

Do you or someone you know have a special skill that could be shared with kids in your area? I encourage you to consider spearheading STEM projects in cooperation with community based organizations such as Scouts, after school programs and more. Our GFWC Club members are rich resources for our communities. We know things. We know people. We serve on boards, volunteer places. We get speakers for our meetings – why not expand that contact and request a facility or workplace tour? Everyone benefits from new knowledge.

Consider using your contacts to assist in arranging student field trips to a local museum, a job site, behind the scenes at a community theater, an animal shelter. Many kids (and some adults!) aren't aware how the Post Office works. My local Post Office offers informational tours – how does mail get sorted? How does mail get from here to there? What's the cost of a stamp? Does your community have a recycling center? Kids love to see where trash goes and how materials get reused. Many city departments will gladly give tours. All we have to do is ask. How will you get involved?



## Environment

Jane Thomey, Chair

The alarm bells are warning us of the many crises endangering our planet. Many experts and concerned citizens offer suggestions that if carried out collectively can begin to reduce the threat to our environment.

There are many reminders for us to make lifestyle changes – whether it is eating plant-based foods, eliminating plastics, conserving water or driving less among a myriad of others. It takes individual commitment to make these changes and a desire to reverse the damage that has been created. If you want to take environmental stewardship to a new level, one way is to share your concern with your community through volunteering. The environment can use your help in finding ways to encourage as many people as possible to participate in planet-saving activities.

There is no single way to volunteer. Your choice depends on your interests, skills and preferences. It may be through practical forms such as



beach and river clean-ups, working in community gardens, planting trees with the Arbor Day Foundation or adopting highways, parks and paths.

These activities may not appeal to everyone. As an alternative consider that most environmental organizations are charitable in nature and rely on donations for financial support. The same organizations could use administrative support including administrative expertise, writing and event planning.

No matter which path you choose, you will be contributing to the community and taking care of the planet. You will meet like-minded people who care about the environment, and with luck, you will learn something from the experience that you will be able to share. Your enthusiasm may encourage others to contribute their time and talents. After all, **protecting the planet starts with just one person.**





## ESO—Read any good books lately?

Shirley Lorraine, Chair

Of course you have. My good friend, Anonymous, once said “There are no bad books – only ones that don’t interest me at the moment”. What catches your interest? A catchy title? A beautiful cover? For me, it could be any of those things, or all of them. I find that if the first paragraph doesn’t capture my interest, perhaps I should set that selection aside for another time. Isn’t it interesting how timing, mood and health can influence our reading selections?

The strengths of Epsilon Sigma Omicron (ESO), are, in my opinion, the way the program is structured to enhance one’s personal education, how it guides readers to expand their selection of material beyond what is “usual” and how it invites new experiences, new viewpoints and new subjects to explore. ESO has caused me to widen my circle of reading topics greatly. Reluctantly at first, I tackled subjects such as sports and poetry, to discover the richness of burying myself in the experiences of body and soul I never knew possible.

I learned, like my friend Anonymous, that there is a cadence to reading that defies description. When I am immersed in the adventures of



another, I can be someone else, be somewhere else and be transported to things far beyond what my own brain can conjure. But I am preaching to the choir, aren’t I? You, as a reader, already know well how you can lose yourself in a story. This summer, give yourself a break. Pick up something light, refreshing and new to read. Let yourself be carried into another world for a little while. The real world will wait. You might enjoy:

**Love, Anthony** by Lisa Genova. A heartwarming book about a single mom and her autistic son finding solace at a beach location.

**Still Life With Bread Crumbs** by Anna Quindlen. “A deeply moving and funny story of unexpected love” (from the back cover)



## Health and Wellness

Myrna Binford, Chair

Well, here we are with one-half the 2021 year gone already. Now that the pandemic is subsiding, we can pick up the pace in our activities. I am amazed at how well CFWC, Districts, and Clubs have weathered the last year.

Now that the communities are opening up and we begin to have in person meetings again, please don’t forget those members who are still hesitant about attending. It might be prudent to keep the combination of in person and ZOOM meetings in place. Keep in contact with the individuals you know that do not have access to ZOOM or other online platforms. Connecting is a key part of our social, physical, and mental well being.

There are organization’s that need help even as the economy gets better. A few of these are food pantries/food banks, Red Cross, Girls Love Mail, etc. And those that are starting to open, Community/Senior Centers and Nursing/Retirement Homes. My club just celebrated the birthday of a 102-year-old member (we had done this last year also) with a “drive thru” birthday celebration. I hope that a picture will be in the CA Clubwoman at some point. Again, it was not only fun, but showed how much we treasure our members. A full list of program ideas is on the cfwc.org website under Programs, and then Health and Wellness. You have so many to choose from, that you can’t help but want to do several.

Many clubs will have changes in Executive Boards as of June 1. Please support these new Boards with your talents. Be a part of the TEAM! Not a club man or woman? Reach out to your local club—I am sure they can use your talents.

Finally, a reminder that August is National Immunization Awareness Month. It seems like all we have heard about lately is immunize/vaccinate. Of course, you should get your COVID vaccine, but don’t forget the others – pneumonia, shingles, and flu. One you might not think about is a Dtap booster every 10 years. I got nipped by a dog a couple of weeks ago and had to have one as it had been 14 years since my last one. Let us help our communities understand the importance of Immunizations.





## Leadership Education & Development

Dori Kelsey, Chair

As a Leader you may be asked to do things you have never done before, do not really care for; or, find difficult. I always say “try”. I am reminded of the Master Yoda saying “Try! Do not try, do.” I was asked to do something this morning that I would really rather not do at all. But my answer was “It is not my favorite thing, but I will try”. I have been asking all of you to branch out and try to do new things so how could I do any less?

With California reopening, your clubs and/or businesses will begin to resume in-person meetings. You will have a grace period where everyone will just be thrilled to be there, and then they will want to get back to regular projects and work. How will you keep morale and enthusiasm up? My suggestion to everyone is simple, ask the membership/employee what projects they like, what projects do they find difficult to accomplish, and ones they would rather not do at all. Avoid resuming old stale projects and routines—find new ways to engage to complete tasks and address community needs.

Remember from the Workshop in March, we are not bouncing back – we are bouncing forward! Yes, taken from the Xfinity commercial. They have the right idea. Death to the statement “We have never done it that way.” Have a jar based on the &#x26; (Swear Word) jar & everyone who says that statement – “We have never done it that Way” has to pay a dollar. They will think twice about saying that sentence when it starts to cost real money. On the positive side, the money you raise can be used towards your favorite philanthropy. **Let us all bounce forward!**



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## Legislation and Public Policy

Deborah Bushnell, Chair

Our Federation is a nonpartisan, nondenominational organization. We can advocate for policies or legislation but are NOT allowed by law to endorse candidates or engage in partisan politics.

All GFWC/CFWC members must separate personal political activities from official club or state federation work. We must remember that GFWC member's advocacy efforts are practical not political.

I encourage our readers to take time each day to better understand the legislative process as it relates to current issues and learn how to take action.

I encourage all CFWC members to join the GFWC Legislative Action Center. The LAC allows members to track bills, contact our local representatives and act on issues important to GFWC, Clubs and Members. Local Clubs and clubwomen are the advocates “on the ground” for GFWC's legislative agenda. It is through the national network of grassroots advocates that the Federation gains its political influence.

We are currently supporting the following:

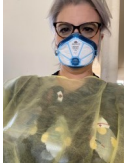
- 1) Equal rights under the law! We are urging both houses of Congress to remove the deadline for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) to the U.S. Constitution and reaffirm congressional support for women's equality.
- 2) An End Campus Sexual Assault. Supporters of legislative efforts to close the persistent pay gap in the U.S. believe the COVID-19 pandemic and the racial justice movement will provide the leverage needed to pass new federal proposals this year.
- 3) The Paycheck Protection Act. Early data from the pandemic reveals women have been disproportionately impacted by pay cuts, job losses, and childcare and home-schooling demands. The National Women's Law Center believes this will be essential for women trying to rebound after the public health and economic crisis.



## Pandemic Workers

By Jennifer Nichol

People join Federated clubs because they are willing to be on the front lines of working to improve their community and help others do the same. While it is the strong desire to do good that initially draw people to the club, it is the bonds of friendship they form while doing this work that keeps them coming back for more.



I met Sarah Abrego during my first year as a member of the Riverside Woman's Club. Sarah was a young mother studying to be a nurse who attended club with her delightful mother Sue. Sarah since graduated and has worked tirelessly throughout the pandemic putting herself at risk as a nurse.

Lois Bailly is a long time Federated member who first joined as a Junior, and was a teacher until her recent retirement even teaching remotely during the pandemic.



Jill Johnson Young is someone I met when we were in play pens as our fathers were professors at the University of California, Riverside. Jill chose social work as her profession and has worked throughout the pandemic helping families adjust to loss of loved ones in addition to her usual practice. Jill explains the experience: "As an LCSW who owns a group practice in a pandemic, especially as one who specializes in grief and loss, the pandemic has been hard on our staff, our clients, and our community in more ways than I can describe briefly. It's hit everyone, and it's been horrific for our clients from marginalized groups."

Heidi Dodd is a teacher who worked through Covid. She is a member of the Elsinore Woman's Club and serves on the De Anza District board. Heidi is also a school board president. She says "I am so fortunate to work with students of all ages and learn firsthand the unique challenges they face during this difficult time. During the pandemic, we had zoom meetings and telephone calls and found ways to volunteer in our community while maintaining social distance. The hardest part about leading a school district during this time has been finding ways to maintain connection with our students and keeping them engaged in school remotely. It is so wonderful that, with the availability of the vaccine, we will be able to bring our students back to the classroom full-time in the fall"



### Cup of Joe for a Joe

By: Judith Yoakum

What could be more comforting to a deployed service member than to receive a premium cup of coffee. You have the opportunity to give this gift through Green Beans Coffee who created the "Cup of Joe for a Joe" program. The program provides premium coffee free to service members deployed throughout the world. For \$2.50 each, you can order as many cups of joe as you prefer and Green Beans Coffee will match your gift cup for cup. You can send a message along with your gift and frequently you will receive an answer from a grateful recipient. Many GFWC/ CFWC clubs throughout California adopted the "Cup of Joe for a Joe" program as a way of supporting our troops. One district participated in the program to pay tribute to all the women serving in our military.

Whether as an individual or an organization, you can say thank you and honor our troops by going to [greenbeanscoffee.com/coj](https://greenbeanscoffee.com/coj).

*Life's most persistent question is, "What are you doing for others?"*

*~ Martin Luther King Jr.*

## Crime Survivors

### Hope & Healing for a New Beginning

By Colleen Janssen

Survivors of violent crime have an advocate and friend in Patricia Wenskunas, Founder and CEO of Crime Survivors, a California non-profit. This 501(c)(3) organization was founded in 2003 following a violent attempted murder.

April 4, 2002, Wenskunas was attacked by the personal trainer from her regular gym. She had known him for about a year and trusted him. He came to her house to give her an estimate on the value of a treadmill he encouraged her to sell. He drugged her, wrapped her head in Saran Wrap, proceeded to kick and punch her, then attempted to murder her. With every ounce of strength she had left, she was able to jump 12 feet down from an indoor balcony, escaping to a neighbor's home to get help. Although he was found guilty of the crime, he was given a lenient sentence of only 120 days by the trial judge. The outrageousness of the sentence just compounded the feeling of violation. "I was a mouse," says Wenskunas. "He turned me into a lion." She no longer is passive in her life, rather she is focused and works every day to help others who are victims of violent crime. A video about the crime is on the organization's website: [crimesurvivors.org](http://crimesurvivors.org).

"Our organization helps victims of domestic violence, rape, sexual assault, elder abuse, human trafficking, child abuse, and survivors of attempted murder." She continued, "We also help families of murder victims." Survivors and their family members can suffer lasting effects. These can manifest as drug and/or alcohol addiction, eating disorders, promiscuity, and more. It depends on many factors. Someone can seem perfectly fine, but twenty or more years later, start suffering these effects. Others fall into these behaviors immediately.

"No two victims are alike. You can't compare different crimes," shared Wenskunas. "People are in different places, different mindsets, and need different healing." Crime Survivors provides services in Southern California, helping to break the cycles of victimization and trauma.

Patricia is known to say, **"With faith, there is hope,"** and **"We offer hope and healing to survive and thrive."**

The Crime Survivors Resource Center offers support groups, Art for Healing classes, self-defense and

safety classes, personal empowerment pep classes, legal support, child and adult victim emergency bags, resource guides, diapers and wipes, case management and counseling therapy. Service providers participate in weekly Service Provider Roundtables, collaborative partnerships, peer-to-peer support group, Marsy's Law training, and law enforcement training. The organization holds two annual Superhero Run/Walk events; one in Los Angeles, the other in Orange County. On August 26, they will hold a Night Under the Stars fundraiser.



"In 2002, I joined this movement," said Wenskunas. "In 2021, I feel like a failure. I want to make a difference for victims, but it is worse now than ever. This is not

a victim-friendly state or nation. They treat offenders as victims."

She cites three recent legislative items that have damaged the lives of victims. AB109 allowed violent offenders to be moved from state prison to local jails. Prop 47 allowed the early release of prisoners. Prop 57 changed the crime of drugging and raping an unconscious person from a violent crime to being considered non-violent. "As long as I have breath, I'll keep doing this work."

Wenskunas' message is, "Once you have been a victim, you are a crime survivor on a journey. You are not alone. Our nonprofit organization is here to listen without judgment, without shame, blame or guilt. We will walk side-by-side on your new life journey and be a voice for the voiceless.

If someone needs immediate assistance, they should call 911, the local police department, 211, or a national hotline. Many times, these other organizations will provide immediate help, then refer the victim to Crime Survivors. During the pandemic, the need was greater. Some victims were trapped at home with their attacker. Instead of working from home, Wenskunas still went into the office, often six days a week, to be ready to help. Crime doesn't take a day off, neither does Crime Survivors Resource Center.

## Crime Survivors (continued from previous page)

**How can local women's clubs help?** There is a list of needed items that changes throughout the year, depending on the season, but here's a great start:

- Monetary donations (92.4% of donations go directly to program services.)
- Gift cards (Walmart, Target, grocery store, gas cards, and 99 cent stores)
- Sponsorships of events and programs
- Blankets, school supplies, hygiene items, toys for the holidays, items for Thanksgiving baskets, candy for Easter, stuffed animals, coloring books and crayons.

For emergency kits kept at local police departments, they need hygiene kit items, clothing in all sizes including undergarments (underwear, bras, etc.), socks, sweat suits, also reusable bags or backpacks, bottled waters, juice boxes, fruit snacks, granola bars, bags of chips, and non-perishable snacks. If your club wants to help, just contact Patricia. She will help you match your desire to donate with what is most needed at that time.

Finally, Volunteers are always needed to pack bags with donated items, do office work, sort donations, help at events and fundraisers and much more.

### Spring Trivia Winner: Mary-Allesandra Cook

President Pam, over the last year, spent 750 hours zooming, skyping and using Big Marker. She took 300 phone calls, responded to 750 emails and text messages; and has 9 ongoing journals currently in use.

We'll beat any written quote by 10%

## ARTINPRINTING

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## Cooking Corner—Salad Made Easy

From Kay Porter, President Mount Diablo District

### Chickpea Salad—serves 4 to 6

- 2 cans of chickpea (garbanzo) beans
- 1 cup raw pumpkin seeds



### Dressing

- ¼ cup finely chopped fresh basil
- 2 TBSP finely chopped fresh parsley
- 2 small cloves garlic, minced
- ½ cup extra virgin olive oil
- 2/3 cup lemon juice
- ½ tsp crushed red pepper
- cap full—Everyday Seasoning from Trader Joe's
- Sea salt to taste

**Directions:** Put chickpeas in colander, rinse and drain. Add pumpkin seeds, fresh celery and bell pepper. Add dressing ingredients in a separate bowl and blend together. Pour over chickpea mixture and serve.

### Caprese Salad—serves 4 to 6

- 2 cans of ¼ artichoke hearts
- 1 can of green olives
- 1 container of red grape tomatoes
- 1 container of mozzarella balls
- 1 pkg. of fresh basil



### Dressing

- ¼ cup finely chopped fresh basil
- 2 TBSP finely chopped fresh parsley
- 2 small cloves garlic, minced
- ½ cup extra virgin olive oil
- 2/3 cup lemon juice
- ½ tsp crushed red pepper
- cap full—Everyday Seasoning from Trader Joe's
- Sea salt to taste

**Directions:** Put artichoke hearts in colander and drain. Transfer to bowl. Mix dressing and fold over artichoke hearts and marinate for minimum an 30 – minute/hour. Wash grape tomatoes, drain olives, drain mozzarella balls and chop fresh basil. Fold all ingredients in with the marinated artichoke hearts. Then serve promptly.

## DESTINY RESCUE INTERVIEW WITH FOUNDER TONY KIRWAN

“

I heard a couple of people talking about a mother in Bangkok who was offering her daughters to a man for sex. She told them that for only \$400 he could do whatever he wanted to them.

**Hearing this story broke me and it changed the trajectory of my life.**

TONY KIRWAN

FOUNDER, DESTINY RESCUE

Destiny  Rescue™  
RESCUING CHILDREN





Tony Kirwan, founder

### How did Destiny Rescue get started? What was the vision behind the beginning of the movement?

In early 2001 while visiting Thailand I heard a couple of people talking about a mother in Bangkok who was offering her daughters to a man for sex. She told them that for only \$400 he could do whatever he wanted to them.

Hearing this story broke me and it changed the trajectory of my life. When I returned to Australia with my family in February, the story went with me. It was playing on a loop in my head. I couldn't stop thinking about it and it created a burning passion to help kids who were being sexually exploited. I felt such an urgency to do something.

I started researching to see if there were organizations rescuing children from the sex trade, but I couldn't find any. It was discouraging, but I could not shake the feeling that I was called to do this. So, I began to pray, seek, dream, and plan.

I quickly realized that I had no idea how to start or run a charitable organization. There was a lot I was going to have to learn. I needed to gain experience before believing that I could actually rescue and restore exploited children. I felt led to start by helping widows and orphans. The country of

Mozambique was on my heart, so I decided to fly there to begin Destiny Rescue in October of 2001.

As I prepared to depart to Mozambique, my resolve was tested. I had more than a dozen people I respected reach out to tell me not to do it. I remember standing at my departure gate as I said goodbye to my family. I hugged them all and told them I would see them in about seven weeks. As I entered the gate my 5-year-old daughter shouted "Goodbye Daddy!" It pierced me to my core. There was such finality in her words. It was at that moment that I first realized that I may never see my family again. I walked through the gate and broke down and cried.

For the next seven weeks I walked through the slums in Beira, Mozambique seeking those in greatest need. I created a sponsorship program and enrolled 91 widows and 242 children. To cover the initial needs of the program, I paid for it all on my credit card. I had stepped out in faith and had not asked anyone for financial support. I put my trust in God and knew that he would provide.

The vision was to rescue children and put an end to the child sexual exploitation in my lifetime. I didn't have a staff or any volunteers. I didn't have people sharing the vision in meetings with businesses and churches. There was no media team to create brochures or videos. Formal charitable entities hadn't been set up. It was just me

and God. I have no idea what God saw in me. Maybe He chose me because I was very ordinary. Maybe He chose me because he knew that I would say yes. In the end, it doesn't matter. It is abundantly clear that Destiny Rescue is where it is today due to the hand of God and His favor upon us.

### What are some of the easiest ways for individuals to get involved?

First and foremost, people need to make a decision to do something - because something is much better than nothing. We need more people to say "enough is enough." Get informed and become an advocate who tells people about exploited children. Donate and encourage others to do the same. Our biggest need is always for monthly financial supporters. The work is difficult and it cannot be done without the support of generous people who are willing to make sacrifices for these children.

### What challenges have given you the biggest lesson?

I would say that one of the biggest challenges that has become one of the biggest blessings has been growing a team. Finding the right people who can catch the vision and do what it takes to bring it to life can be hard. Being a leader is difficult, especially when you have to make hard decisions. The work becomes extremely challenging and a change of direction is sometimes needed. It is in those moments and situations that you learn who you are as a leader and who is following you. Some will continue to follow, but others just want to walk alongside you for a season. Some will leave when the going

*We need  
More People  
to say  
"enough is  
enough"*

gets tough. And in our work, the going gets tough all the time.

I have learned that being a leader means consistently moving forward and doing what is right regardless of the opinions of others. I have to have a team in order to make it all happen, but at times I also have to be prepared to walk alone. Today, our team consists of approximately 250 staff and volunteers around the world. We have found the right people and the organization continues to grow because of it. I am a better leader than I was at the beginning and I know I have to continue to grow. Regardless, I will always be willing to make the hard decisions for the benefit of the children.

**What was your first “win” that made you confident that you were doing the right thing?**

There really isn't a first “win” that I can recall. I have seen horrific things on the front lines of this work. Seeing kids trapped in the sex trade and knowing that I can play a small role in setting them free gives me confidence. All I have to do is think about the beautiful smiles of those we rescue to know that I have committed my life to the right thing.

**What are some examples of advocacy efforts that have been effective?**

Sharing stories of those trapped in sexual exploitation in a transparent, accurate, and honorable way has to be at the center of our advocacy efforts. We have to put names (and occasionally faces) to big statistics. We need people to be educated on the realities of the issue and help them understand that the fight against child sex trafficking is a winnable war. We have rescued over 6,000 individuals thus far -- so there is hope! If we can tell more stories to more people, more children will get rescued.

**If you could go back and talk to your earlier self, what would you say?**

There are probably a lot of things I would say to myself. First, spend more time with your kids. The work is important, but so are your own children. Second, slow down on the fast food. Third, take time to celebrate the wins, even the small ones. Don't get distracted by the next thing until you celebrate the current victory. Finally, don't allow yourself to be bullied by the opinions of others. There will be many opinions out there on how you should or shouldn't do things.

**What are some of the important statistics that you wish every individual knew about human trafficking?**

I don't spend a lot of time thinking about statistics. I focus on the faces and names of those exploited. There are so many statistics out there about human trafficking. Many are overwhelming and most are hard to validate as truth. But behind those numbers, those statistics, are the real names and stories of children who are sold and abused. And there are millions of these children trapped around the world right now.

**What is one question you wish an interviewer would ask you? If asked that, how would you respond?**

I have \$10 billion dollars to give to you today. How would you like it? Cash, check or card? My answer would be, “Check please! And excuse me while I do my happy dance!!”



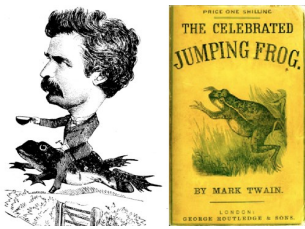
**Destiny Rescue™**  
RESCUING CHILDREN

***“... the fight against child sex trafficking is a winnable war.”***

## Jumping Frog Jubilee

By Cathie Holins

Tom Sawyer and Huck Finn are familiar characters to most people because Mark Twain, aka Samuel Clemens, was required reading in most high school literature classes. A lesser known work of his was “The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County” which he wrote in January 1865. This story was based on a tall tale Mark Twain over-heard while imbibing at the bar in the Angels Hotel. What you may ask was Mark Twain doing in an obscure little town like Angels Camp? So the story goes Twain needed to make himself scarce in San Francisco for a time so he fled to the gold fields of Calaveras and Tuolumne counties.



After publication of “The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County” in 1865, it was not until 1928 that the city of Angels Camp held the first modern era frog jump and it became a regular part of the annual county fair in the 1930’s.

The frog jumping competition begins on Thursday, the first day of the Jumping Frog Jubilee, annually the third weekend in May. The finals are held on Sunday afternoon, the last day of the fair. The top 50 jumpers from the four day competition are entered into the finals. The current world champion is ROSIE THE RIBITER with a distance of 21’ 5 3/4”. The cash prize for breaking the record is a whopping \$5,000.00!

The rules of the contest are simple, the frog gets three “jumps” to make their best distance. The frog “jockey” can do anything to encourage the frog except touch the frog. That is a disqualifier!

The Jumping Frog Jubilee has entertained families for generations. Of course there are other things to do at the fair in a “normal” year but we are not in “normal” times right now. A rodeo, destruction derby and exhibits galore once graced the Calaveras County Fairgrounds. Unfortunately, this year will be different. While there will be a frog jumping competition and a junior livestock show for the 4-H however, the annual livestock auction is virtual.

I had the opportunity recently to attend a Fair Board meeting as well as a Friends of The Fair meeting and my take away from these meeting is this: the fair



is a huge operation that takes major cooperation from every direction you can think of and while paid staff from the maintenance crews to the CEO are vital, the fair's success depends on scores of volunteers.

So, if you find yourself in Calaveras County the third weekend in May, detour to Frog Town and experience a truly wonderful small town county fair experience.

## The Magical Bridge *A Playground for Everyone*

By Judith Yoakum



Whether a toddler or a senior, the Magical Bridge is for YOU! Following the building of the first Magical Bridge in

Palo Alto, California, the Magical Bridge Foundation was founded in 2016. Under the Foundation, a second Magical Bridge was built in Redwood City, California and just recently celebrated its grand opening. There are currently 12 Magical Bridge projects in the works world-wide.

The Magical Bridge Foundation partners with cities, developers, municipalities or anchor donors to create new and inclusive playgrounds. For information, contact Jill Asher, Executive Director and Co-founder, Magical Bridge Foundation, 650-520-8512, [jill@magicalbridge.org](mailto:jill@magicalbridge.org). Anyone two years old or 102 years young, whether a child, an adult or a parent with a disability, this wonderful playground affords everyone in every stage of life the opportunity to play and enjoy this magical experience together.





## Women in History

By Kim Plater



**Clara Shortridge Foltz (1849 — 1934)** is credited with writing the law that allowed women to become lawyers in California. She was the first woman to pass the bar in California and was a member of the California Federation of Women's Clubs. (*The Lady Lawyer* by Sharon Avery, University of California Hastings College; CFWC)



**Mary Tape (1857–1934)** and her husband Joseph were successful immigrants from China. Their daughter, Mamie, was born in the United States. Mary was an activist and supporter of the right for Chinese Americans' to have equal access to education. She brought a suit against the principal of the school, most notably in the case *Tape v. Hurley*. In 1885, the California stated that public schools could not exclude Mamie for being Chinese American, and that their daughter had the right to attend a public school. (*Wikipedia*)



**Tye Leung Schulze (1887 — 1972)** was born in San Francisco's Chinatown, at a time of deep xenophobia against Chinese immigrants and Chinese Americans. In 1910, Leung became the first Chinese American woman to work for the federal government; she was hired

as an interpreter at the newly-opened Angel Island Immigration Station, designed to enforce the 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act. In 1912, Leung became the first Chinese American woman to cast a ballot in the U.S. election, one year after women won the right to vote in California. (California Commission on the Status of Women).



**Katherine Philips Edson (1870 – 1933)** was an American reformer and social activist who had a key role in changing the labor conditions in California and across the nation. Katherine became an active leader in the Women's Suffrage Movements while residing in Antelope

Valley. Katherine moved to Los Angeles and became a member of the Friday Morning Club in 1900. This club had over three thousand members at the time. (*Wikipedia*)



**Charlotta Amanda Spears Bass (1874 – 1969)** was an American educator, newspaper publisher/ editor, and civil rights activist. Bass became the first African American

woman nominated for Vice President, as a candidate of the Progressive Party. During the 1920s, Bass became co-president of the Los Angeles chapter of the Universal Negro Improvement Assn., founded by Marcus Garvey. (*Wikipedia*; The California Research Bureau, California State Library)



**Clara Bradley Wheeler Baker Burdette (1855 — 1954)** was the first president of the California Federation of Women's Clubs, 1900 — 1902. She served as the 1st Vice President of the General Federation of Women's Clubs 1902 to 1904, and was active in politics, including the 1932 presidential campaign of Herbert Hoover. She was the first female police officer for the Pasadena Police Department in the early 1900's. After suffrage was gained, she was an organizer of the national League of Women Voters. (*Wikipedia*, *The Answer*, Clara Burdette)



**Dolores Huerta (1930 — )** Born in 1930, Huerta is one of the most influential labor rights organizers in America's history, known for working

with Cesar Chavez to fight for farmworkers rights and being instrumental in the enactment of the Agricultural Labor Relations Act of 1975. On January 1, 2020 Dolores Huerta rode atop the "Years of Hope. Years of Courage" float in the Pasadena Rose Parade. The float celebrated the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment, that gave women the right to vote. (California Commission on the Status of Women.)

**"If they don't give you a seat at the table, bring in a folding chair."**

Shirley Chisholm. First black woman elected to the United States Congress



## A Legacy of Leadership

We electronically interviewed our CFWC Past Presidents. Over the course of the next several issues we will hear from them their thoughts on Leadership. These pearls of wisdom can help you achieve more than you thought possible.

**If you could talk with every new member on their very first day as a clubwoman, what would you say to them?**

**Toby Kahan:** You have joined the best volunteer organization with a 130+ years of outstanding achievements. You are going to learn leadership skills, expand your knowledge of the needs of your community and beyond, and you will develop lifelong friends. I encourage you to serve on a committee, become a chairman, and/or an officer. Our organization allows you to be creative. Whether you are active at the club, district, state, or national level, I can assure you memorable experiences.

**What leadership advice would you like to share with our readers?**

**Kathi McGraw:** A good leader is flexible and delegates. Each situation a leader encounters is unique and needs to be handled differently. Delegating saves time, increases idea sharing, and moves the club forward.

**What leadership advice would you like to share with our readers?**

**Carol Lucey:** Listen - Educate yourself with the history of Federation -- Take time to know other members and know their skills. Make your team diverse in all areas. That will make your team great. Remember - Every member has a gift to share. Share your gift.

**What do you believe, as an organization, we should focus on achieving in the area of Membership now in the post pandemic environment?**

**Valerie Barnes:** I am very worried about our decreasing membership numbers. We need a spark in our method of membership recruiting. We must develop a new membership program with a focus on increasing our numbers. I would suggest that clubs not focus on a specific type of person (i.e. stay at home, middle-age, younger, etc); but instead, focus on finding like minded members. We must learn to appreciate ALL members and really join hands to work together!

**When reflecting on your year as CFWC President, what would you say was your biggest accomplishment?**

**Mary Sprague:** The organization of the LEADS Seminar at the CFWC level to help promote leadership for all the Districts, restructuring of CFWC Board meetings to accommodate schedules, and moving leadership from head tables (except for Sat night dinner) to the floor so they could mix and mingle with the clubs—developing a feeling of teamwork.

**What do you believe, as an organization, we should focus on achieving in the area of Strategic Direction?**

**Dori Kelsey:** We need to show everyone that we are bouncing forward. We are thinking of new and needed projects. Ways to help women are very important now. Domestic Violence has gone up since the stay at home orders. We need to be helping these women and men live in ways that they choose and that they can be happy and productive.

**What do you believe, we should focus on in the area of Public Image?**

**Chris Herzog:** Rather than the classic clubwoman maybe today the focus is more like a sorority organization.



1994-1996  
Doris Rufener



2000-2002  
Carol Lopez - Lucey



2002-2004  
Mary Sprague



2008-2010  
Vicki Holden



2010-2012  
Kathi McGraw



2012-2014  
Valerie Barnes



2014-2016  
Chris Herzog



2016-2018  
Toby Kahan



2018-2020  
Dori Kelsey

# 2021 CFWC Convention Highlights

By Clubs across the State

The 2021 CFWC Virtual Convention brought out the creativity of the members. From thinking hats to butterfly hats we saw it all. Some groups like Temecula Valley Women's Club met in person and participated in the ZOOM calls together. The Convention proved to be fun, engaging, and filled with great speakers. Congratulations to all clubs recognized for their work in their local community.



## Jennie June 2021

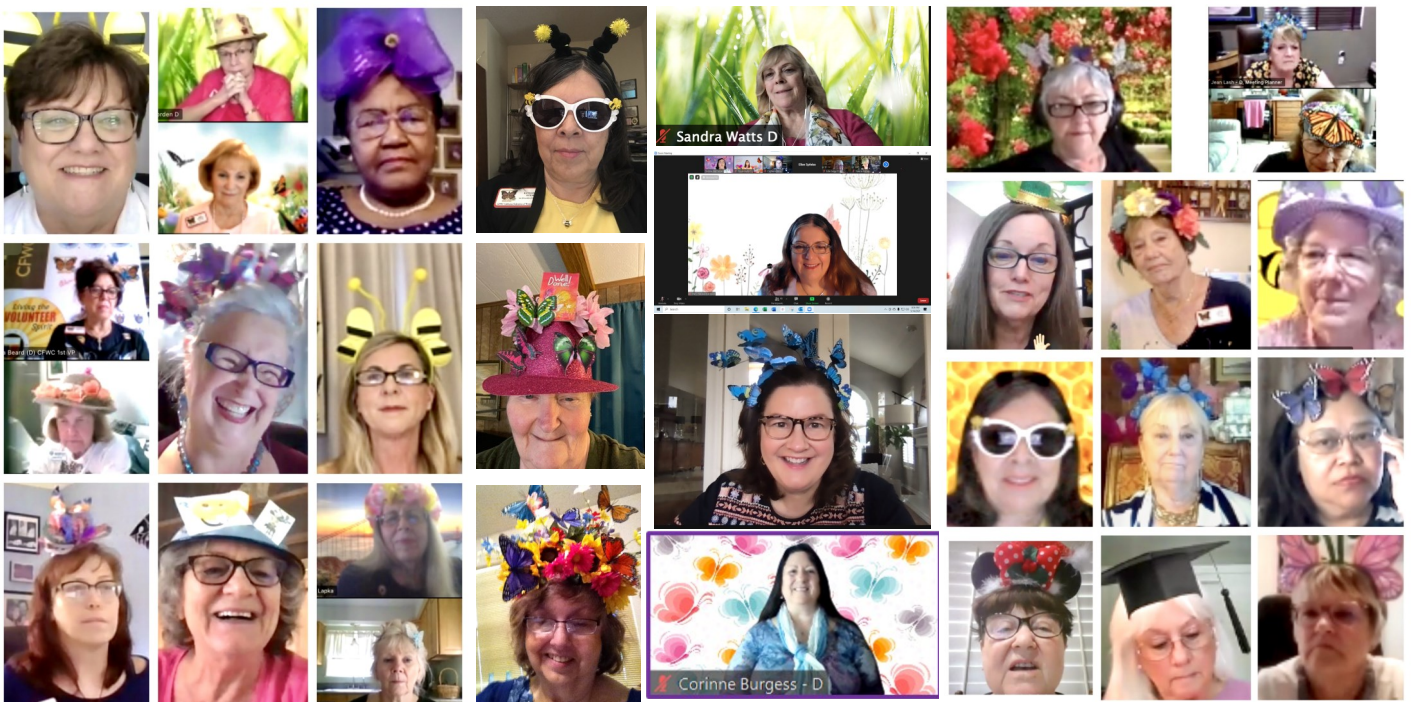
By Sandra Cabral, Chairman

Please join us in congratulating Connie Biggers as our 2021 Jennie June winner. Connie has been a member of Federation since 1984 in different Clubs within Tierra Adorada District. She has held many leadership Positions in Club, District and State. She is also a volunteer in seven NON CFWC Organizations—all of which submitted endorsement letters. Connie was recognized a few years ago as the Volunteer of Ventura County. On a personal note, Connie Graduated college in Colorado and moved to Ojai, California in 1966 where she taught high school for 33 years as an American History Teacher as well as a girl's coach. Connie loves Cooking and baking for her neighbors.

Judges' Comments, This was a difficult choice for the judges. All applicants have proved good leadership qualities, fundraising that is phenomenal and are overall wonderful ladies. Congratulations goes to all the applicants for going above and beyond! Connie embraces not only her club but spends over 40 hours a week on community service through her home club and seven other community organizations well as a leader of Parliamentary procedures. Connie has also attended all club and district meetings and events and almost all CFWC state conventions. She has attended all western region conference excluding Hawaii as well as several GFWC conventions. Connie has proved her leadership qualities and is said to be a mentor to many others club members and community leaders.



*Pictures are worth a thousand words....*





## California Clubwomen Changed Lives

In spite of the Pandemic, clubwomen from across the State heeded a call to action and were successful in changing the lives of those in need, provided hope to the hopeless, and challenged the very essence of what was believed to be impossible. The magnitude of their efforts are reflected in the numbers below.

<b>Number of Projects:</b>	3,937
<b>Volunteer Hours:</b>	878.558
<b>Dollars Spent:</b>	\$1,922,397.72
<b>In Kind:</b>	\$542,021.25

The detailed Awards booklet, outlining individual club accomplishments and recognitions can be found at <https://www.cfwc.org>.



Be sure to check out the wonderful photography winners at [cfwc.org](https://www.cfwc.org). Picture on left is from Joanne Kerr, a member of the Walnut Valley Woman's Club

## What Does GFWC Mean to You?



By: Wendy Carriker  
GFWC 2nd Vice President

During Convention, GFWC Second Vice President, Wendy Carriker challenged us to really think about what GFWC means to each of us. Below came from her presentation.

**GFWC- Gathering Friends With Causes**  
**GFWC- Great Fun While Creating.**  
**GFWC- Gorgeous Females Working & Collaborating**  
**GFWC - Good Friends With Chocolate**

### WE ARE:

Generous, Giving, Graceful, Gutsy, Good  
Fearless, Faithful, Fair, Fierce, Forceful, Friendly  
Warm, Wonderful, Worldly, Warrior, Welcoming  
Certain, Caring, Comforting, Credible,  
Courageous

.....but we are so much more.



### #CFWC, #FederationProud

CFWC President, Pam Ament inspired us with the poetry of Maya Angelou but also reminded us what it means to be a member of this great organization.

<b>F</b>	Friendship
<b>E</b>	Energy
<b>D</b>	Dedication
<b>E</b>	Eager
<b>R</b>	Reliable
<b>A</b>	Action
<b>T</b>	Together
<b>I</b>	I am not alone
<b>O</b>	One of Many
<b>N</b>	Now



Women's Clubs across the state helped us as we welcomed the newest chartered Woman's Club, GFWC HOPE.



Twins Brianna and Natalie Fabian, Indio High School freshmen, saw that some of their classmates were food insecure and had basic needs that were not being met. They decided to form a group to help address those needs. With the help of their mom, a member of GFWC Woman's Club of Indio, they asked WCI to sponsor them and brought in their friends. They obtained a logo, got an EIN, and opened a bank account. They successfully petitioned the school board to become an official on-campus club at two local high schools so that they can recruit, fundraise, and do projects. They are planning a "white ribbon" anti-sexual assault and teen violence project. During Convention they became an official member of CFWC! They are changing the world and paving the way for service clubs of the future!





## Be Resolute

By Mickie Reed, CFWC Resolutions Chair

Since the beginning of Federation in the late 1800's and early 1900's, social issues were at the forefront of our members' intentions. Our members joined the Federation to address issues such as voting rights for women, education, equality and community health and wellness. Resolutions were created with the goal of using our collective power to effect social change and improve lives within our community.

On a yearly basis, new resolutions are brought forward, and existing resolutions are reviewed for relevance. Many resolutions are retired as they have been accomplished or have become obsolete. Taking a look at a historical list of our resolutions, illustrates how our society has changed and evolved over time.

Once a Resolution is proposed by a club or member, the Resolution advances to the Resolutions Committee for editing, a fact check, and presentation to the membership as a whole. Then our membership votes whether this idea or call to action will have the support of our entire organization.

Some of our new resolutions in 2021 addressed the following:

- Support of the United States Postal Service by urging Congress to pass the USPS Fairness Act and to provide funding to ensure the agency's financial solvency;
- Support of law enforcement and a separate resolution urging law enforcement departments to adopt programs that stress non-physical intervention first, and to create or enhance cultural awareness programs to address implicit/explicit bias;
- Prevention of Teenage Drunk Driving through education programs directed toward increasing both teen and parental responsibility;
- Prohibition of flavored e-cigarette "vaping" products not covered by a federal ban, including menthol flavored cartridges, refillable and tank-based vaping systems, to decrease use by children.

The CFWC Resolutions Committee is made up of the Chair, who is appointed by the CFWC President and a committee member from each of the four state areas. It is important to understand that the Resolutions are not the individual beliefs and opinions of the Resolutions Committee, but are ideas and calls to action by individual members or clubs within the Federation, supported by documentation.

So, join a club, write a resolution for a cause you are passionate about, get the support of the entire Federation and change the world! **Be Resolute!**



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## Mount St. Mary's University

Advancing Women



GFWC California Clubwoman Magazine, had the honor and privilege to interview the Director of the Center for the Advancement of Women at Mount Saint Mary's University, Dr. Emerald M. Archer.

Emerald M. Archer, PhD, is an Associate Professor of Political Science and Director of the Center for the Advancement of Women at Mount Saint Mary's University. In addition, she serves as Executive Director of the Women's College Coalition. She has dedicated her career to studying questions related to gender equity and women's representation in non-traditional domains such as the United States military. Through the Center, Archer's primary goal is to promote and increase gender equity in California and the nation. She leads the Center's efforts related to applied research, education and policy analysis. Archer has published numerous peer-review journal articles, chapters in research anthologies, and is the author of *Women, Warfare and Representation: American Servicewomen in the Twentieth Century* (Bloomsbury, 2017). She serves on the board of directors for the Foundation for Women Warriors and holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of California, Santa Barbara (2009).

**Q: How has the COVID-19 Pandemic impacted the University? What are you most proud of in terms of your response to the constraints of the Pandemic?**

**Dr. Archer:** Like the experiences of all universities and colleges across the country, the pandemic has created some challenges at the University. We had to quickly shift to remote teaching and learning modalities to keep our community members safe. The public programs that are offered through my Center, for example, had to quickly shift from traditional to virtual programming. Although we haven't been able to convene in the same physical space for more than a year now, I believe that virtual programming has allowed us to share information with a broader, and in some cases national, audience.

I am most proud of being part of a faculty who are agile, innovative, and focused on student success. The stresses of pivoting away from traditional teaching, juggling working for home and, in some cases, facilitating the education of young children at the same time, and anxiety that comes with a global pandemic had the potential to bring out the worst in communities. But our community made the best of a pretty challenging situation, stayed focused on student needs and learning, and has kept the community together in ways we might not have thought possible before the pandemic.

**Q: If you were to do a comparison between the pre-pandemic status of women in CA and the post pandemic status of women in CA, what would you say has impacted Women the most?**

**Dr. Archer:** This is a tough question because in every category we assess – economic wellbeing, the workforce, health and wellness, and safety – we see dramatic changes experienced by women, but particularly by women of color.

One area that has really struck me is how many women have left the workforce since the pandemic started, and what implications that has on the gender equity work we have been doing collectively for decades.

The US Labor Department recently reported that almost 2.5 million women have left the workforce since the pandemic, compared to 1.8 million men. And up to 60% of working women are questioning if advancing their careers is worth it because of the outsized responsibilities they already have under normal conditions. Women are working double duty around the clock – as professionals and caregivers. A few factors may be at play here. A greater percentage of men than women report being





## Interview with Dr. Emerald Archer (continued from previous page)

more productive at home or have enjoyed positive career progression like receiving praise, a raise or more responsibility during this time (sometimes 2-3x more). Given that women take on the lion share



of childrearing and unpaid domestic labor, meeting the demands of working from home where expectations have shifted (sending emails after hours, long Zoom meetings) has raised questions for them.

This is troubling for its implications on women's representation in senior leadership roles. If women are dropping out of these leadership ranks, who will represent their concerns and perspectives? This is a diversity killer when we think about the downstream effects the pandemic has had on the workforce.

**Q: How can individuals and our readers across the state help mitigate the inequities and/or amplification of the pandemic impact?**

**Dr. Archer:** So first, I would say that knowledge is power. Download the Report, read it, and share it with your networks so you have the data at your fingertips. Once you are armed with data, here are a few ideas:

- Raise your voice when you or others need support. Unfortunately there is no “on” and “off” switch with the pandemic and we will be dealing with pandemic related concerns moving forward. Center your physical and mental health, and those of others, in the conversation.
- Challenge your organization to do better when helping its workforce manage the juggle of our work and home lives.
- Adopt a leadership mindset. Even if you are not in a traditional leadership role, lead where you can. This pandemic has pushed millions of women out of the workforce, and we will need leaders to build initiatives and programming that centers gender equity in the conversation so we can continue to make positive change.

**Editors Note:** There were several more questions that we were able to chat with Dr. Archer about, including the benefits of a woman's college and the 2021 Summit on the Status of Women and Girls in California. If you would like a copy of the full interview, please email the Editor to request a copy. Please also take time to tour their website to learn more about the University. It is a role model for all University's and colleges.

**Q: If you could go back and talk to your younger self, what advice would you give her?**

**Dr. Archer:** I would tell her to really work on developing your networks at an early age. None of this gender equity work that we do can be done in isolation. It has to be done collaboratively, with shared resources and vision. Say “yes” to as many of those coffee meetings or networking events as you can because it will pay off later. Follow up with those you connect with on LinkedIn to keep the conversation going. Also, don't take yourself too seriously and enjoy the journey!

**Q: What advice would you give to young girls today to ensure a better tomorrow?**

**Dr. Archer:** I would advise them to be honest about what they will and won't accept when thinking about where they work, the organizations they support, and the goods they consume. When I think about my own experience as a young woman, I didn't expect there to be an even playing field. I expected obstacles to be in my way and that I'd have to think creatively to overcome sexism or misogyny in certain contexts. The beauty of Gen Zer's is that they expect a level playing field from the get-go and they often pay with their feet. Ask future employers what they are doing to ensure equity. Pay with your feet – for those brands are not committed to gender and racial justice, stop supporting them. You have power – and institutions and organizations will respond to your choices.

**Q: What inspires you and motivates you as a leader?**

**Dr. Archer:** My students and the next generation who are already pushing for more... and better. Although many of them have been impacted in a variety of ways by this pandemic, they keep digging deep and finding the energy to persist. That motivates me. They are creative about possible solutions.

## Club News

GFWC LaVerne San Dimas Club celebrate red nose day and Federation day



### Club women Celebrating Federation Day



Lynn Confetti-Ledbetter



Deb Latassa



Krista Imperiale



### GFWC Peninsula Hills Women's Club Thank Essential Workers.

Early in 2021, GFWC Peninsula Hills Women's club created the "Thanking Essential Workers" project. Candy bars were purchased, labeled, wrapped, and delivered the candy to various locations including Sequoia Hospital, Kaiser Hospital in Redwood City, Redwood City Police and Fire Departments, Fair Oaks Medical Center, and the Farm workers Caravan in San Jose.



### The San Diego Woman's Club's sold their clubhouse to St. Paul's Senior Center. Their PACE (Programs of

All-inclusive Care for the Elderly) program opened in 2008 and was the first PACE program in San Diego County. It is an all-inclusive wellness center that provides a full schedule of activities, wellness programs, and opportunities to socialize and exercise. At the start of the pandemic, St. Paul's PACE quickly implemented multiple solutions to bring care to homebound patients as safely as possible. Since selling their clubhouse, they were in a unique position to provide a donation of \$25,000 toward the effort to obtain a newly designed vehicle.

### Addressing Food Insecurities in Playa del Rey By Teri Messina



To address the issue of food insecurity, the Playa del Rey Club partnered with Silicon Beach Social Club and held two canned food drives for Food Pantry, LAX. On August 15, they combined the food drive with voter information and celebration of the 100 Year Anniversary of the 19th Amendment. Members dressed in Suffragette white and wore "Votes for Women" sashes! At this event, 216 bags of food were collected. The second event focused on local needs during the holidays.



**Clubwoman Judith Glenn** shares a picture of the certificate and Flag that flew over the nations capitol in honor of her mother, at the request of her father, in 1991. Her mom passed in January of this year but Judith shares "...boy was she a Proud American having been the recipient of this flag and certificate."



**The Woman's Club of Rialto** hosts a Paint Party Day with a morning and evening session. They learn new painting techniques, relax, lift spirits and have fun. They all remained socially distanced!

**The Woman's Club of Cypress** sew gowns for children receiving Cleft Lip surgery with Operation Smile, gave school scholarships to high school seniors, and honored the Cypress Police Department.





## Club News



**Pasadena Woman's Club** celebrating Federation Day

**Elsinore Woman's Club (EWC)** celebrates 65th Annual Flower Show. EWC encourages the community and local schools to enter and share the beautiful flowers grown in our area and design unique arrangements. When entering the historic clubhouse built in 1924, one is delighted with the aroma of roses and other blooms. The flower show is a big part in the history of EWC who celebrated their 115th year of serving their community and beyond. The club has been a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs since their beginning in 1906.



April was National Child Abuse Prevention Month and the **Hemet Woman's Club** held a virtual Pinwheel Project with the purpose of helping to bring awareness to the community of the problem of child abuse. The club supplied the materials to make the pinwheels and instructions for entering the virtual pinwheel photo contest. Seven pre-schools responded with a wide variety of pinwheel gardens. One school choose to have a parade of the students and their pinwheels walk a busy city street.



Circa 1911

(photo courtesy of the Ojai Valley Museum)



Club House in 2019

(Photo from painting by Joanne Caldwell)

**Ojai Valley Woman's Club** celebrates 110 years in Federation. In the early days they called on the sick, elderly and newcomers. They organized boys to sweep the streets and provided a cow to a needy family. The building was used to distribute relief during the fire of 1917, housed nurses in the flu epidemic of 1918, housed a kindergarten and 6<sup>th</sup> grade during WWII, provided a home for six churches and served as a venue for many lectures and concerts. The club has raised money for streetlights, restroom for Libbey Park, the library and the Fire Department. Today focus on Civil Rights, Education, Art & Music, Scholarships, Libraries, Environment, Adopt-a-family, Veterans and Homelessness.

## Women's History Resource Center

Julie Lehenbauer, Chair

At the 1902-1903 Convention of the California Federation of Women's Clubs, Held in Alameda District, it was noticed that attention was called to the introduction of traveling libraries. The California Club of San Francisco had the honor of introducing the project to the state. A year later, it was reported they had 62 successful traveling libraries. The chairman urged the importance of aiding the free library movement in California. By 1907, it was reported that 70 of 99 libraries circulating in 45 countries were club sponsored. A year later, at the 1908-1910 Convention, it was reported that the Library Committee would be retired as soon as its work was turned over to the State Library.

Fast forward to 1923 when the Literature Department was concerned about reaching women living in remote areas of the state. Cooperation between the California Library System and CFWC resulted in the establishment of County Libraries.

By 1953, clubs were sharing rooms with libraries and held literary teas and Author days. By 1968 eighteen new libraries were established and contributions of over \$7,800 reported by Epsilon Sigma Omicron and Library Services Department. Thirty thousand books moved by Bookmobile and 5,794 books were given to the "Every child Owns a Book" project.

I am not sure about everyone, but when I read this information it makes me very proud to belong to such a great organization.



## A New Day for People Experiencing Homelessness

By Colleen Janssen



According to Assemblywoman Sharon Quirk-Silva, 65th Assembly District, “The cost of homelessness to the State of California is in the billions.” Since her days as a City Council member in Fullerton in 2004, she has seen the problem triple. Recent statistics show slightly more people are entering homelessness than those that are exiting. With the pandemic ending, those numbers may increase as people are not able to pay back rent and accumulated expenses. “We used to think of the homeless as single men in their 20s, 30s, or 40s.” She continued, “Now it’s seniors, women, and vets.” As the problem has grown, the costs have increased. “The scope is bigger, too, because of youth that age out of the foster care system. There is not a single brush of who is homeless.” In addition to people with addiction issues that are truly on the streets, there are many people who are couch-surfing at family and friend’s homes.



“The newest category is people living in RVs.” The concern for the addition of this new group to the numbers of homeless is evident in her demeanor. “They move from jurisdiction to jurisdiction, city to city because of overnight parking enforcement” shared Quirk-Silva.



Programs have been instituted by cities and counties throughout California. One program, called Be Well OC, through the County of Orange, has 93 beds, far more than the 15 previously available. They offer help for those facing mental health issues. Instead of police putting a person on a 24-hour hold, they are evaluated by a team of professionals including police, ambulance, firefighters that triage the person, then be brought to the facility, if needed. The new resident at Be Well can stay up to 90 days for treatment.



Referrals to follow up care are provided and assisted. More Be Well sites are planned. Families who need help, and those interested in learning more about the program for their community can call (949)749-2500. The County of Orange Centralized Assessment Team (CAT) can be reached at (714)517-6353.

The issue of homelessness is personal with Quirk-Silva. Her brother suffered from alcoholism. The family tried to help him, but he ended up in and out of homelessness. “We did many interventions, but couldn’t keep him in one place.” Three years ago, when he was 50, he was finally getting help, but was hit by a car while riding his bicycle and killed.



Quirk-Silva continues to work on the introduction and support of bills in the Assembly that specifically address homelessness. For a complete list of these bills visit her website <https://a65.asmdc.org/>.

**How can clubwomen help?** Check with your local City or County offices to find homeless shelters and programs. See what kinds of help are needed. Then, gather your volunteers and be the change you want to see in your community. You may also contact your local Assembly Member for recommendations. To reach Assemblymember Sharon Quirk-Silva, who is a member of the Woman’s Club of Fullerton, please call her office at (714)525-6515.



**September 23**  
**at 7-8pm PST**  
Virtual Event

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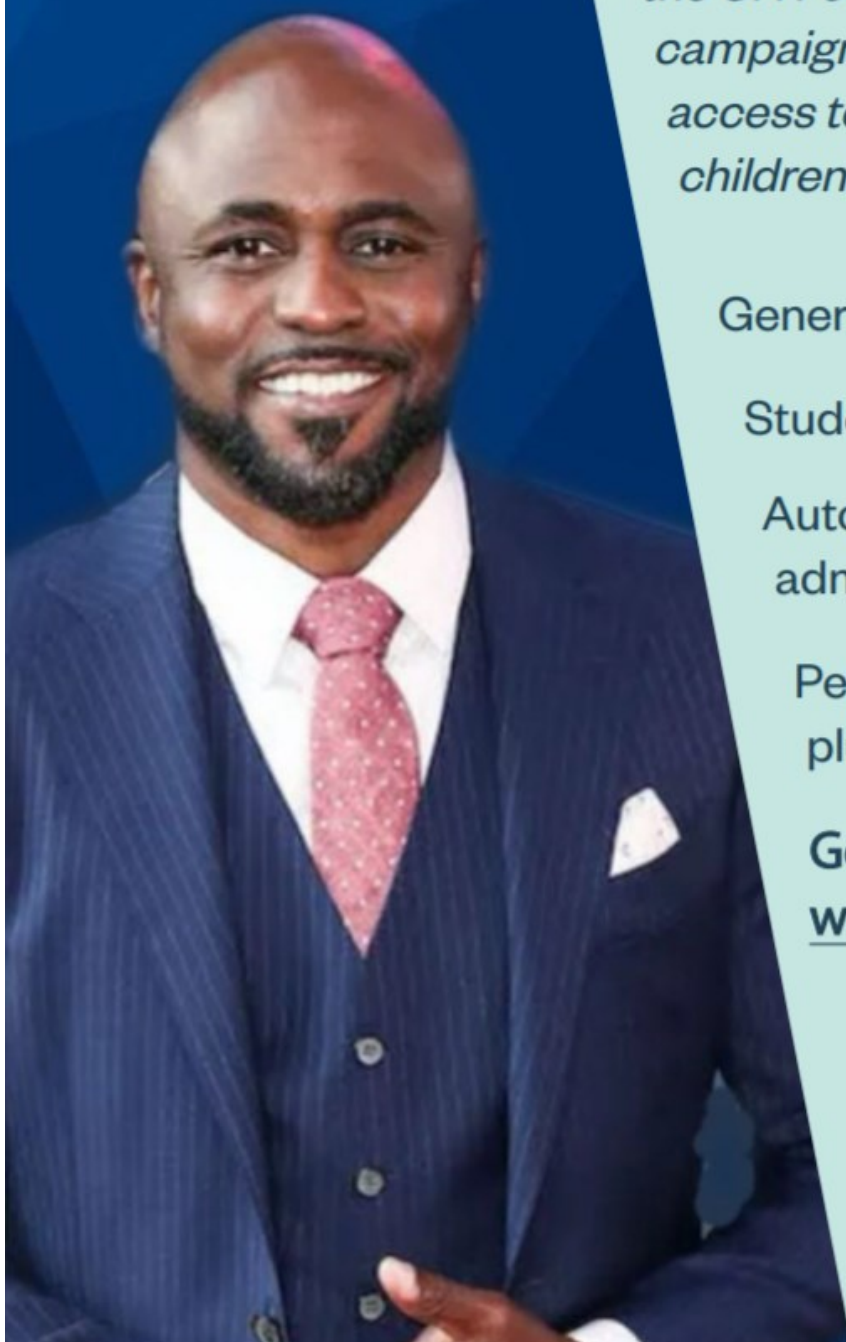
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**Autumn Reflections by Joann Karr, Walnut  
Valley Woman's Club Photography Winner  
2019-2020**

The GFWC California Clubwoman is a magazine designed to inspire, educate, inform, and entertain individuals in the works of humanitarian service. It is a lifestyle magazine that features information about technology, health, leisure, club life, culture, & community development. The Summer 2021 Edition is all about the ***Magic of New Beginnings***.

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