

# **CALL**

**GFWC California Federation of Women's  
Clubs**

**122nd Annual Convention**

**May 15-17, 2025**



**Holiday Inn San Jose – Silicon Valley**

# GFWC CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS

## OFFICIAL CALL TO CONVENTION 2025

May 15-17, 2025

GFWC Board Members, Club Presidents, Delegates and Members:

This is your official CALL to the 122nd Annual Convention of the GFWC California Federation of Women's Clubs (CFWC). This CALL contains information about Convention Sessions, activities, events, meals, registration and delegates. It also contains the proposed amendments to our GFWC/CFWC Bylaws and proposed Resolutions for your consideration. Please study them and caucus within your clubs/districts before arriving at the Convention. No copies of the proposed Bylaw Amendments and proposed Resolutions will be available at the Convention, so it is important that you bring this CALL with you to the Convention. Members may view and download copies of this CALL, Bylaws and Resolutions from our website: [www.cfwc.org](http://www.cfwc.org). If you have any questions or problems, please contact Mary Sprague ([MLSPRAGUE@sbcglobal.net](mailto:MLSPRAGUE@sbcglobal.net)) or Kathi McGraw ([glenn.mcgraw@ca.rr.com](mailto:glenn.mcgraw@ca.rr.com)) Convention Co-Chairs.

**Club Presidents: It is your responsibility to make sure your delegates receive or download copies of this CALL and the Registration Form. Non-voting members who plan to attend will need copies as well to insure they are informed and prepared to expedite business. Please adhere to all deadlines.**

The convention is open to ALL members! It is a time to meet other clubwomen, gather new inspiration from our speakers and workshops and experience the camaraderie of Federation.



# President's Welcome



**Dear Members and Friends,**

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the **122<sup>nd</sup> GFWC California Federation of Women's Clubs Convention – 2025!** Serving as your **68<sup>th</sup> CFWC President** has been an incredible honor, and I am thrilled to have this opportunity to thank you for your dedication and the meaningful impact you continue to make in your communities and beyond.

Your reports beautifully reflect the heart of our Federation as we strive to improve our lives both locally and globally. This year's convention theme, **“Salute to the Red, White, and Blue,”** celebrates our unwavering support for the military. From hosting baby showers for young service members and providing gifts to military families to honoring and assisting our veterans, we take pride in our commitment to those who serve.

Convention highlights include:

- **Chairman's Faire** – Meet with the CFWC Chairmen and learn firsthand about their projects.
- **Informative Workshops** – Gain insights from Officers on key initiatives.
- **Area Meetings** – Connect with your Area Vice Presidents, foster friendships, and stay informed on regional activities.
- **Officer and Chairman Reports** – Stay up to date on Federation news and accomplishments.
- **Celebration of Life** – Honor and remember our cherished Sisters-in-Federation.
- **Awards Presentations** – Recognizing your dedication, efforts, and contributions toward achieving our shared goals.

As we gather, we will share ideas, inspire one another, and continue to **“Ignite Our Volunteer Spirit”** to create positive change.

Join us at the **Holiday Inn San Jose – Silicon Valley** from **May 15-18, 2025**, as we proudly **“Salute the Red, White, and Blue”** and let CFWC shine!

Yours in Federation and Love,  
Sonya

## REGISTRATION

Advance registration is accepted if received on or before **April 30**. Mail the Registration and Meal Reservation Form with a check to cover both the registration and meals in time for them **TO ARRIVE NO LATER THAN** April 30. The late registration fee is \$30.00.

Mail to:

Kathi McGraw  
4584 Sherington Court  
Cypress, CA 90630  
714-995-8850 / [Glenn.mcgraw@ca.rr.com](mailto:Glenn.mcgraw@ca.rr.com)

ALL checks should be made payable to CFWC CONVENTION FUND.

## REPRESENTATION

CFWC Bylaws: ARTICLE XIII, Section 13 E. A quorum for transaction of business at the convention will be ten percent of the registered delegates and three officers.

Section 13.2 Representation, Voting Body:

CFWC Membership

1. CFWC Officers, elected and appointed.
2. District Presidents or President's alternate
3. District First Vice-Presidents/Presidents-elect or alternate
4. Past State Presidents
5. Chairmen of Community Service Programs, Special Appointments and Administration.
6. Chairmen and members of Standing and Special Committees, including committee member when they are officially engaged in fulfilling their duties,
7. Club Presidents or their alternates.
8. Each club having 20 members or fewer will have two (2) delegates or alternates. Each club shall have one (1) additional delegate or alternate for each additional ten (10) member or a major fraction thereof. Each Affiliate club shall have one (1) vote. This will allow our full dues paying Juniorettes to have all the benefits of belonging.

**SPECIAL NOTE:** Attached is a listing of all the clubs and the number of delegates they are entitled to.

**CELEBRATION OF LIFE:** Please submit names of deceased members who served on the CFWC Executive Board to Debbie Pietrazsko ([debpie74@yahoo.com](mailto:debpie74@yahoo.com)) **by April 15** so they may be included in the Celebration of Life Ceremony being held at Convention. Include only those who have passed since May, 2024. Contact Debbie Pietrazsko ([debpie74@yahoo.com](mailto:debpie74@yahoo.com)) with questions.

**LEADS REUNION:** This event is open only to CFWC members who have participated in a CFWC LEADS Seminar as their District's representative; to all former CFWC Leadership Chairs who have conducted CFWC LEADS meetings and to all State Presidents who have included CFWC LEADS meetings in their administration.

**EMERITUS:** This event is open only to those CFWC members who have joined the CFWC Emeritus Club, which is an affiliate club of former CFWC Board members

**CONVENTION PHOTOGRAPHER:**

There will be a specific area assigned for photos of the 122<sup>nd</sup> Convention. Members will report to this area for all Achievement Award Photos with the CFWC Chairs. There will be live action photos inside the rooms during the Convention.

Should you not want to be photographed for any reason, or have your photos shown on our CFWC social media sites, please let the Convention Photographer know. Additionally, prior to the dinner banquets and Happy Hour, group photos of clubs, districts and friends may be arranged by just showing up to the station.

**HOTEL INFORMATION:** The official headquarters for the 122<sup>nd</sup> Convention:

Holiday Inn San Jose-Silicon Valley, 1350 North 1<sup>st</sup> Street, San Jose 95112  
408-453-6200

Complimentary shuttle to/from San Jose International Airport

Booking Code: [CF2](#)

**RESERVATION DEADLINE: April 15**

Room Rates: \$129.00 Double/King ++(currently 14%, \$1.25 HBID,\$0.50 CA Tourism Tax  
\$139.00 Ex King  
\$159.00 Suites

Triple and Quadruple Occupancy an Extra \$10.00 and \$20.00 per night

Overnight self-parking: Free

Complimentary guestroom internet / Complimentary meeting room wi-fi

**CONVENTION ATTIRE:**

Thursday Opening Session	Business Casual
Thursday Banquet	Cocktail
Friday Lunch	Federation Attire
Friday Banquet	Cocktail
Saturday Lunch	Business Casual
Saturday Banquet	Red, White, Blue Cocktail attire

## AREA MEETINGS

Thursday, May 16, 4:00-5:00 pm

District Candidates will be presented for consideration to serve on committees. Current Bylaws state members are to be elected to the Nominating and Election Committees in non-voting years. Voting Delegates should be in their Area meeting rooms within 10 minutes following recess. Non-voting members may attend on a space available basis after voting delegates have been seated.

## SPEAKERS/ENTERTAINMENT

### Thursday Opening Session: Tunnel to Towers



The **Tunnel to Towers Foundation** is a charitable organization founded in tribute to New York Fire Department firefighter Stephen Siller, who was killed September 11, 2001, during the 9/11 attacks. The foundation operates as a tax-exempt 501(c) 3 non-profit and helps families, first responders and veterans impacted by September 11 to rebuild, in part from funds raised through nationwide charity runs.

The foundation also operates the Let Us Do Good Village, a 100-home area in Land O' Lakes, Florida, explicitly for veterans, first responders and their families.

### Thursday Entertainment - CroonerEd



A CroonerEd show is a highly interactive, captivating journey of music, video, and entertainment. The audience is part of the show in his wonderfully entertaining journeys of lively swing music and romantic love songs. As he performs familiar hit songs from Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Nat King Cole and others, he wanders off stage and into the audience inviting guests to sing along, trade places, dance, and enjoy fun, memorable moments.

It's a terrific night of entertainment which usually includes some hilarious musical comedy, great story telling, and even moments that tug at your heart. Most all CroonerEd shows are just him – along with his wonderful videos – which is just right!

### Friday ESO Breakfast – Linda Jo Myers



fiction novel.

Haunted by the power of the past and how it affects people in later life, Linda Joy Myers, has chosen to write novels about World War II. Listening to her grandmother's stories of the unfairness of the war and watching documentaries together on the brutality of it all, led to Linda's passion for history. Her first book was *The Forger of Marseille*, a highly rated historical

She is the founder and President of the *National Association of Memoir Writers* and has written several books on memoir writing, as well as two award-winning personal memoirs. Linda is also a teacher and blogger. When not writing, Linda loves to travel and care for her 30 rose bushes and extensive garden. She has two kitties who sit on her desk while she's working. Carrying on the family tradition, she is passing her love of history to her children and grandchildren.

## Friday Banquet – Wendy Carriker, GFWC President Elect



A dedicated clubwoman since 1985. Wendy has been involved in volunteer and leadership opportunities throughout her community, North Carolina, and the Southeastern Region.

Serving as GFWC Treasurer 2016-2018, GFWC Secretary 2018-2020, GFWC Second Vice President 2020-2022, GFWC First Vice President 2022-2024, President-elect 2024-present. Wendy has utilized her leadership and organizational experiences in all that she accomplishes including being a member of the Strategic Planning Committee. Wendy served as GFWC of North Carolina Director of Junior Clubs (2000-2002) and served GFWC of North Carolina as State President (2012-2014) and is a GFWC of North Carolina Honorary Member since 2000.

## Saturday Lunch – Honor Flight



Honor Flight Central Coast California has a single mission: to take our veterans to Washington, DC to visit the memorials that pay tribute to their military service. We are an all-volunteer, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that provides veterans from Southern Monterey County through Ventura County with no-cost "Tour of Honor" trips.

Our local club was founded in 2014 and is part of the National Honor Flight Network. To date, almost 700 local veterans have participated in these three-day trips that include stops at military and war memorials, Arlington National Cemetery and other sites. The trips are powerful, emotional celebrations of military service and friendship, a time of healing and closure and an opportunity for veterans to receive long overdue thanks for their service and sacrifice.

## Saturday Banquet – Elise McFarland (Rosie the Riveter)



Elise has built a career in parks over the last twenty-five years, starting with East Bay Regional Park District, then California State Parks, and now the National Park Service. She worked in eight different parks and at management level for the Diablo Range District of State Parks before coming to the four National Parks of the East Bay in March of 2024.

Elise is currently Chief of Interpretation for Rosie the Riveter, John Muir, Eugene O'Neill, and Port Chicago. In her spare time, she enjoys baking, weaving, and knitting.

# AGENDA 122nd CFWC CONVENTION

May 15-18, 2025

***“Salute to the Red, White & Blue”***

Preliminary Agenda/subject to change

## Wednesday, May 14, 2025 (pre-convention)

Executive Committee Meetings – Closed Meetings

1:00 - 4:00 pm	Finance Meeting	Carmel
6:00 - 10:00 pm	Executive Committee	Carmel
7:00 - 8:00 pm	Registration open	Mezzanine

## Thursday, May 15, 2025

9:00 - 10:00am	Executive Board Meeting	Salons D&E
10:00 -12:30	Registration open	Mezzanine

***Must be registered by 12:30 pm to vote in Area Meetings***

11:00 -12:30	Emeritus Lunch	Salon K-L
12:00 - 5:00	Vendors	Mezzanine
6:00 - 6:30 pm	Registration open	Mezzanine

## General Session

**1:00 – 3:00 p.m. in Salons D & E**

1pm. Call to Order – Sonya Matthies, CFWC President  
Presentation of Colors – Del Mar High Color Guard  
Renewal of Pledge of Allegiance – Ann Cochrane  
Inspiration –  
Song – Led by Deborah Bushnell  
Patriotic Message – Civic Engagement & Outreach Chair Anne Cochrane  
Welcome – Area A VP: Nancy Jo Banko  
Area B VP: Ellen Ansok  
Introduction of Officers, Past CFWC Presidents, Guests – CFWC President Sonya Matthies  
Welcome of First Timers – 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Cindy Sanders and Area VP's  
Preliminary Credentials Report – Kathi McGraw, Credential Chairman  
Adoption of Convention Rules – CFWC Parliamentarian Chris Herzog



Adoption of Convention Program – 1<sup>st</sup> VP Wendy Curran  
Appoint Committee to read and approve 2025 Convention minutes – Sonya Matthies  
Officer's Reports (3 minutes and 2 copies)  
Corresponding Secretary – Marcia Willett  
Recording Secretary – Marsha Larusso  
Director of Finance – Jill Drescher  
Treasurer – Deborah Bushnell  
Financial Secretary – Lynn Confetti-Ledbetter  
Parliamentarian – Chris Herzog  
Program: *Tunnel to Towers*  
Consideration of Proposed By law Amendments – Chris Herzog  
Consideration of Proposed Resolutions – Katie Squire  
Announcements – Mary Sprague and Kathi McGraw, Convention Co-Chairmen

4-5 p.m. **AREA MEETINGS**

AREA A	SALON A
AREA B	SALON B
AREA C	SALON C
AREA D	SALON M

Recessed until dinner

**Thursday Evening Banquet –  
In Honor of Club Presidents and District Presidents**

6:30 p.m. District Presidents line up outside of Ballroom

6:45 pm. Procession of District Presidents Salons F-J

Introductions – Diane Waterhouse - CFWC Amenities and Protocol

Meal Blessing –

7:15 pm Dinner

Officers' Reports (3 minutes and 2 copies)

CFWC 1<sup>st</sup> VP Wendy Curran

CFWC 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Cindy Sanders

Area A VP Nancy Jo Banko

Area B VP Ellen Ansok

Area C VP Sandy Tessier

Area D VP Martha Pritchard

Program – Crooner Ed

Drawings

Announcements Mary Sprague and Kathi McGraw Convention Co-Chairs  
Recessed until 1 pm Friday

**Friday May 16, 2025**

8:00-9:30 am	ESO Breakfast	Salon K-L
8:00-11:00 am	Registration open	Mezzanine
<b><i>Must be registered by 11:00 in order to vote</i></b>		
9:00-5:00 pm	Vendor Exhibit Open	Mezzanine
10:00-11:00	Workshops	
	GFWC President-Elect – Wendy Carriker	Salon D&E
	Membership – Cindy Sanders & Area VP's	Salon A&B
	Finance Team	Salon C
	Leadership – Vicki Holden	Salon M
5:00-5:30 pm	Registration	Mezzanine

**Award Luncheon**

**In Honor of all CFWC Chairmen, District Chairmen and Club Chairmen**

Thank you for all you do for the Federation!

12:00 p.m. Processional for all CFWC Chairmen, Administration and Program Chairmen and  
Committee Chairmen (Please sit in designated area)

Introductions – Diane Waterhouse, Amenities and Protocol

12:30 pm Blessing

12:45 pm Lunch

Reconvene

Presentation of Awards Wendy Curran

**COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS & ADVANCEMENT AWARDS**

- Advocates For Children, GFWC Special Program - Sandra Cabral
- Arts And Culture - Kelly Davis
- Civic Engagement and Outreach - Anne Cochrane
- Communications, Public Relations - Linda Queen
- Domestic & Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention - Cathie Petithomme
- Education & Libraries - Kay Masonbrink
- ESO, GFWC Advancement Area - Reggie Mattox
- Environment - Nancy Jones
- Fundraising and Development – Angie Nelson

- Health and Wellness - Patsy Wilson
- Leadership and Leads - Vicki Holden
- Legislation and Public Policy - Kathleen Holm
- Women's History and Resource Center - Allison Eccleston

Drawings – Kathi McGraw and Mary Sprague

Announcements – Mary Sprague and Kathi McGraw – Convention Co-Chairs

Recessed until dinner

### **Friday Evening Banquet Honoring Past CFWC Presidents**

6:30 pm Past CFWC Presidents line up for processions

Introductions – Diane Waterhouse, Amenities and Protocol

6:45 pm Welcome to Dinner – Sonya Matthies CFWC President

Meal Blessing

7:15 pm Dinner is served

Reconvene

GFWC President-Elect – Wendy Carriker

President's Address – Sonya Matthies CFWC President

Membership Awards and Past President's Chimes – Cindy Sanders

Drawings – Kathi McGraw and Mary Sprague

Announcements – Mary Sprague and Kathi McGraw

Recessed until 1 p.m. Saturday .

Memorial Service Celebrating the lives of CFWC Board members we lost this past year. Those in attendance will leave the room quietly at the end of the service. Thank you to Debbie Petraszko for arranging this ceremony.

### **Saturday May 17, 2025**

8:00-9:30 LEADS Reunion

Salon L

8:00-2:00 Vendor Exhibits

Mezzanine

10:00-11:30 Chairman Faire

Salon D&E

10:00-11:00 Workshops

CFWC President & CFWC Dean

Salon A

Communications – Linda Queen

Salon B

Civic Engagement & Outreach – Ann Cochrane

Salon C

GFWC President Elect – Wendy Carriker

Salon M

**Saturday Lunch**  
**Honoring Federation Members, the Foundation of CFWC**

12:00 Reconvene

12:15 Meal Blessing –

12:45 pm Lunch is served

Reconvene

Awards – Wendy Curran

**CFWC CONTESTS**

CFWC Creativity Writing Contest, Youth Creative Writing, Achievement Award - Olma O'Neill

CFWC Photography Contest - Olma O'Neill

CFWC Young Musician's Award - Carol Spiker

Jennie June Contest - Carol Lopez Lucey

Program – Honor Guard

District Presidents Reports (2 minutes)

Drawings

Announcements – Mary Sprague & Kathi McGraw, Convention Co-Chairmen

**Saturday Evening Banquet**  
**Honoring 2025-2027 Executive Committee**

Processional –Executive Committee

Introductions – Diane Waterhouse, Amenities & Protocol

Meal Blessing

7:15 Dinner

Reconvene

Program: Elise McFarland - Rosie the Riveter

Drawings – Mary Sprague & Kathi McGraw, Convention Co-Chairmen

Collect – all together

“Let there be Peace on Earth” – Deborah Bushnell

Adjournment – Sonya Matthies CFWC President

# Menus

## **THURSDAY, MAY 1**

**Emeritus Lunch** – Garlic Butter Chicken with Spinach, Rice Pilaf

Vegetarian – Butternut Squash Ravioli, Brown Butter Sage Sauce

Dessert – Cookies & Brownies

**Banquet** – Pan Seared Cod Fillet, Saffron Cream Sauce, Mashed Potato, Asparagus

Vegetarian – Vegan Meat Ball with Garlic Spaghetti in Marinara Sauce

Dessert – Classic Cheesecake

## **FRIDAY, MAY 17<sup>th</sup>**

**ESO** – All American Breakfast Buffet

**Lunch** – Roasted Chicken Leg Quarters with Congris Rice and Sweet Plantain

Vegetarian – Sweet & Sour Tofu Tempura, Rice, Cucumber Salad

Dessert - Cheese Flan

**Banquet** – Grilled Pork Chops, Mushroom gravy, Sweet Potato Casserole, Asparagus

Vegetarian – Cheese Manicotti with Marinara Sauce

Dessert – Black Forrest Cake

## **SATURDAY, MAY 18<sup>th</sup>**

**LEADS** – Continental Breakfast

**Lunch** – Rigioni Pasta with Bolognese Sauce

Vegetarian – Mushroom Ravioli in Vodka Sauce

Dessert – Cherry Pie

**Banquet** – Chicken Piccata. Mashed potatoes, seasonal vegetable

Vegetarian Grilled Jerk Paneer with Mango Avocado Salsa, Coconut Rice, Black Beans

Dessert – Coconut Cake

**ALL MEALS MUST BE ORDERED BY THE DEADLINE – NO MEALS AVAILABLE AT CONVENTION**