



# Abundance News

## GFWC Woman's Club of Stuart

“Celebrating 107 Years of Community Service”  
A Member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs\*

Volume 22, Issue 9

Paulette Holliday, Editor

May 2020

### From the Desk of President Jo Baxter



As I indicated in my message last month, I planned to keep a daily list of things I am grateful for during the month of April. This is day 28 for me, and except for a slip-ups a couple of days (which I filled in), I have kept my list going. Some items are mundane (being thankful for AC on the really hot days), and some are more serious. Like being thankful for the great conversations I've had with my granddaughter Sophia, who is about to turn 16. I've spent several days with Sophia practicing driving, and it's been a blessing to be alone with her, enjoying our expeditions on not-so-busy streets.

As expected, making a daily list of things I am grateful for has helped me to keep a positive outlook in these abnormal times. I hope you have also experienced some unexpected joys this past month.

One thing I'm thankful for every day that I serve as president --- and that's the support, encouragement and willingness to volunteer that our members offer. Our club is truly a special group of women, and I feel blessed to be a part of it. We have some challenges ahead of us, but I hope you will read the article in this newsletter about how you can stay involved as a club member and do some good for others during the summer.

*\*GFWC an International Women's Club  
dedicated to community improvements by  
enhancing the lives of others.*



## 2020-21 Officers Elected

Sixty members had voted as of April 28 for the 2020-21 officers of both the Executive Board and Trustee Board. Happily, the vote was unanimous in favor of the slate of nominees below.

Also, we still need someone to be Recording Secretary, which involves taking minutes at the Executive Board meeting each month, as well as the general business meeting of the club each month. The Recording Secretary is a voting member of the Executive Board. If you are interested, please contact Tonya Axton, Nominating Committee chair, or Jo Baxter.

### 2020 - 2021 Executive Board



**Jo Baxter**  
President



**Sharon Mason**  
VP Programs



**Carolyn Liebowitz**  
VP Hospitality



**Shelly Hammer**  
VP Membership



**Cecilia Lewis**  
Corresponding  
Secretary



**Paulette Holliday**  
Communications Director



**Ruth Martini**  
Treasurer



**Pam Evert**  
Assistant Treasurer



**Diane Berrian-Viola**  
Parliamentarian

**“Believe that good things will happen...and they will.”**

### 2020 - 2021 Trustee Board



**Jo Baxter**  
President



**Janie Copes**  
Past President



**Sharon Mason**  
VP Programs



**Patty Bushman**  
Treasurer



**Rona Byrne**  
At Large 1



**Faith Paul**  
At Large 2



**Sandy Coughlin**  
At Large 3



**Starr Lorenzi**  
At Large 4



**Ginger Shannon**  
At Large 5



**Gail Rice**  
At Large 6



**Barbara Forlenza**  
Building Trustee



**Diane Berrian-Viola**  
Parliamentarian



**Sandra Weaver**  
Rental Agent

“At times, our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person.”

### Stay involved! Make a phone call!

Do you have the time to make a phone call? Of course you do! Here's the plan. Get your Club Yearbook out, find your name in the directory, and call the person whose name follows yours.

You may know this person, or you may not know her. It doesn't matter, the idea is the same – to have our members check on each other, and let them know someone in the club cares about them.

Here are some conversation starters, in case you don't know the person...

\*\*\*“HI, I'm (your name) calling from the Stuart Woman's Club.” We are checking on our members to see how they are doing during this pandemic. Tell me how you are.....

\*\*\*“What are you doing to stay sane?”

\*\*\*“I'm doing well (or having trouble with\_\_\_.”

You get the idea! If everyone makes one phone call, we will all be connected. Then repeat the process in June, July and August by calling the same member again.

If you find someone who needs real help, please let Jo Baxter know, and we will try to solve the problem.

And just so no one is left out from the phone calls, our officers will make calls to new members whose names aren't yet in the Yearbook.

### Spread some cheer!

Let's together spread some cheer, faster than the corona virus has spread. There are so many folks who would appreciate a word of thanks or comfort.

Here are some ideas:

1. Write some notes to residents of long-term care facilities and nursing homes. You don't need to know them. Address your note to “Resident, XYZ Nursing home.” Say you are writing on behalf of the Woman's Club of Stuart to wish them well and let them know they aren't forgotten. Include a cheerful poem, or other item of interest. If you have ever known someone in a nursing home, you know this will be a most appreciated gesture.
2. The next time you are in the grocery store or drugstore, thank the check-out clerk for making it possible for you to get the items you need. Do the same for people stocking shelves.
3. Leave a treat (cookie, cupcake, etc.) for your postman with a note of thanks.
4. If you have your groceries delivered or get take-out from restaurants, leave as generous a tip as you can.

These are just some ideas to get you started. You will have your own ideas of ways to spread cheer. As Nike says,

**Just Do It!**

## Literary Group

“How fitting, that the most terrifying time in my life should require me to do what I do best: escape into a book.” — **Alix E. Harrow**

To say I was disappointed at the cancellation of everything due to COVID-19 is probably the biggest understatement of the year. Without a doubt, our lives have been undeniably altered as all social activities have come to a halt.

Personally, the hardest part about quarantining was all the uncertainties and unknowns, with no definite end in sight. But under every cloud there is a silver lining and one of those silver linings is the Literary Group.

Even though we missed our scheduled meeting on March 25th, we couldn't wait to see each other and share what we've been reading. On April 8th the Literary Group had its very first video conference meeting. Ten ladies were in attendance, myself included and we had an absolute ball.

On the last Wednesday of every month, the Literary Group meets at the clubhouse and we share the books we've read. Usually we select a theme for each month, but we enjoy learning about books whether they fit the theme or not.

Our theme for the month of March was "Adventure". Below is a list of the books we shared during our video conference.

[Fly Girls by Keith O'Brien](#)

[The Only Woman In The Room by Marie Benedict](#)

[Lady Clementine by Marie Benedict](#)

[The Splendid and the Vile by Erik Larson](#)

[In the Garden of Beast by Erik Larson](#)

[The Churchill Factor by Boris Johnson](#)

[Darkest Hour by Anthony McCarten](#)

[Moby Dick: or The Whale by Herman Melville](#)

[Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea by Jules Verne](#)

[The Infinite Sea by Beatriz Williams](#)

[Now is the Time to Open Your Heart by Alice Walker](#)

[The Storyteller's Secret by Sejal Badani](#)

[The Numbers Game by Danielle Steel](#)

[The River of Doubt by Candice Millard](#)

[Mornings on Horseback by David McCullough](#)

[News of the World by Paulette Jiles](#)

[Circling The Sun by Paula McLain](#)

As we stay home and practice social distancing there has never been a better opportunity to spend more time reading. During times of uncertainty, books can provide so much solace, so lean into them. They can also provide an escape, keep us company, and connect us to people and the outside world.

If you've read a book while quarantining, tell us about it at our next Literary Group meeting! We are not selecting themes at this time, so every book from any genre counts. We will continue hosting meetings via video conference on the last Wednesday of the month at 10 am until it's safe to meet at the clubhouse. Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 27th at 10 am.

Until we see each other again, or at least via video conference...“Let us read, and let us dance; these two amusements will never do any harm to the world.” — **Voltaire**

For more information about the Literary Group or joining the video conference meeting, please contact Melissa Welch 772-233-1419.



April 8th Literary Committee meeting via video teleconference by Melissa Welch.

### Dues are Due May 31

A reminder that dues are due May 31. If you haven't already sent in your dues, please do so today. The dues form is included with this newsletter. Please fill it out and return it with your check to the clubhouse, 729 East Ocean Blvd., Stuart, FL 34994, Attention Pam Evert.



RETURN THIS FORM WITH YOUR CHECK TO  
GFWC WOMAN'S CLUB OF STUART, ATTENTION ASSISTANT TREASURER

GFWC Woman's Club of Stuart

729 East Ocean Boulevard  
Stuart, FL. 34994

www.gfwcwomansclubofstuart.com

**MEMBERSHIP DUES for 2020 - 2021**

Membership classification shall be Active, Associate, Senior, and Honorary. All classes shall conduct the business of the Club and shall share in its responsibilities.

Circle Membership Category that Applies to You:

An **ACTIVE** member is one who has paid her dues and actively participates in Club functions. An Active member must attend at least two business meetings per year, attend an orientation as provided, be a member of a Community Service Committee, participate in one business/program meeting as a part of hospitality, and participate in at least one Club fundraising project.

**ACTIVE Membership (No Luncheons).....\$85**

**ACTIVE Membership (Monthly Luncheons Included).....\$120**

An **ASSOCIATE** member is one who has paid her dues and because of a physical condition or illness, is inactive in the work of the Club. Written request for Associate membership shall be submitted to the Executive Board for approval. An Associate member is excluded from the expectations of an Active member.

**ASSOCIATE Membership .....\$55**

A **SENIOR** member is one who has paid her dues and is excluded from the expectations of an Active member. When she has reached the age of eighty (80) and has been a member of a Federated Club for fifteen (15) years or more, a written request for Senior membership may be submitted to the Executive Board for approval.

**SENIOR Membership (No Luncheons).....\$50**

**SENIOR Membership (Monthly Luncheons Included).....\$85**

Remittance Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ payable to: GFWC Woman's Club of Stuart

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Print your name to be listed in yearbook.

Print CORRECTIONS and/or CHANGES for the 2020-2021 WCS Yearbook.

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Primary \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**MEMBERS FAILING TO PAY DUES BY JULY 1ST WILL BE DROPPED FROM  
THE WCS MEMBERSHIP AND YEARBOOK.**

## Clubhouse, grounds spruced up

Our clubhouse is looking good, with lots of action taken in recent months to improve the appearance and safety of the grounds and building. The biggest improvement undertaken by the Board of Trustees is new impact windows and shutters to protect the building in case of a hurricane.

Trustee Board Chair Sue Riordan reported that “everything looks great,” as the installation was being finished in late April. (That’s Sue posing in front of one of the new shutters). Altogether, 22 windows were replaced with impact glass. Shutters were installed for six French doors, two kitchen doors and the front entrance door with glass sidelights and transom. The total cost was \$38,312, which was paid out of the Trustee and Executive bank accounts.

The railing by our front doors came loose and was removed as a hazard. Building Trustee Paula Rosen has researched a replacement railing, and a decision on that will be soon.

The floors are the shiniest they’ve been in ages, with a new company doing a major cleaning and polishing job. The woman’s restroom was spiffed up last year, and this year the Trustees installed a new vanity and sink in the men’s room.

Trustee Susan Clifford has been working with our grounds keeper to trim bushes and replant some areas. She also oversaw the removal of the dead shrubs on the side of the building, which has been replaced by an attractive fence.

Many thanks to our hard-working Trustees, who’ve done so much to improve our club home.



## Summer Birthdays

### May

Diane Berrian-Viola - 5/1  
 Beth Ray - 5/1  
 Monica Elliott - 5/2  
 Christine Mulrooney - 5/5  
 Christina Walker - 5/7  
 Tatania Kurbotov - 5/8  
 Deni Horna - 5/11  
 Alisa Hart - 5/12  
 Lisa Pinkley - 5/14  
 Virginia Polkow - 5/17  
 Rona Byrne - 5/19  
 Connie Murgolo - 5/22  
 Diana Hachmuth - 5/23  
 Gail Kearney - 5/24  
 Sue Riordan - 5/24  
 Beth Guild - 5/26  
 Helen Engebretsen - 5/31

### June

Barbara Scharlau - 6/3  
 Barbara Assalone - 6/6  
 Creggie Henderson - 6/6  
 Carol Battilana - 6/7  
 Sally Seubel - 6/8  
 Linda Kiarsis - 6/13  
 Laura Elsenboss - 6/13  
 Annette McCoy - 6/21  
 Deena Messinger - 6/21  
 Jennifer McTeague - 6/22  
 Therese Lebel - 6/22  
 Edwina Dunworth - 6/23  
 Janie Copes - 6/24  
 Jeanine Typner - 6/25



*Best Wishes on  
 your Birthday  
 and  
 throughout the  
 coming year!*

## Summer Birthdays

### July

Patricia Snodgrass - 7/2  
 Donna DuBois - 7/5  
 Judy Pinkley - 7/7  
 Palma Vecchione - 7/9  
 Jeannie Silvester - 7/1  
 Carolyn Barca - 7/13  
 Cindy Iandoli - 7/14  
 Margaret Gray - 7/18  
 Sarah Gould - 7/18  
 Sarah Brendal - 7/18  
 Daina Karol - 7/20  
 Paula Scheid - 7/20  
 Eula Leaber - 7/22  
 Belinda Gilels - 7/29

### August

Ruth Martini - 8/3  
 Diane McKechnie - 8/5  
 Debra Skidmore - 8/6  
 Cathy Lieberman - 8/8  
 Patricia Wiencke - 8/8  
 Janice Hanssen - 8/11  
 Phyllis Thompson - 8/13  
 Pamela Evert - 8/17  
 Gayle Brinly - 8/18  
 Sandra Coughlin - 8/23  
 Renee Gould - 8/23  
 Sheryl Konen - 8/30  
 Laura Shepherd - 8/30

*Best Wishes to you and your family for a  
healthy, happy summer!  
Hope to see you in September!*

*Have an  
awesome  
Summer!*

