Orange Blossom Gazette

GFWC LA VERNE-SAN DIMAS WOMAN'S CLUB NEWSLETTER

March 2026 Issue 101

President: Marlene Carney
carney.marlene@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor: Gloria Schaaf
guschaaf@yahoo.com

Every act of kindness sparkles like a star.
Embrace the power of kindness and shine brightly.





CALENDAR OF EVENTS

06 – Gab at Railside Cafe
11 – Lunch at Panera
14 – Orange Flower Blossom Vendor Fair
21 – Hike at Big Dalton
29 – Easter Egg Dyeing



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Sun 05th - Hike at Bonelli, 10 a.m.
Wed 08th- Dinner at Legend's
Mon 13th- Gab at Butter Cafe
Sat 18th- L.V. Wine Walk
Sat 25th- Paws For Pets Walk fundraiser
Sat 25th- La Verne Earth Day Fair

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2024 - 2026

President: Marlene Carney
Co-First VP/Dean of Chairmen: Susan Minnihan & Linda Roache
Co-Second VP/Membership: Jody Mentzer & Sonya Whatley
Third VP/Ways & Means: Lisa Gomez
Recording Secretary: Barbara Randolph
Treasurer: Cathy Koch
Parliamentarian: Pat Borchard
Corresponding Secretary: Eleonore Burress

Chairmen 2024 - 2026

Advocates for Children: Susan Hope
Arts & Culture: Tami Miller
Civic Engagement & Outreach:
Jennifer Nummelin & Candy Miller
Communications & Public Relations: Vacant
Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Awareness Prevention: Jennifer Nummelin & Candy Miller
Education & Libraries:
Marilyn Caldwell (education)
Dian Moravek (Librairies)
Environnent : Jennifer Nummelin & Candy Miller
Fundraiser: Lisa Gomez
Lead : Natalie Fordyce
Health & Wellness: Gloria Schaaf
Leadership: Shirley Vanderbeck
Legislation & Public Policy: Barbara Randolph
Social Events: Jennifer Nummelin & Gayle Garcia
Women's History: Sue Herrera

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:
Marlene Carney



As President of the La Verne San Dimas Woman's Club, I am proud to welcome the month of March as we celebrate **Women's History Month** — a time to reflect on the remarkable contributions women have made throughout history and continue to make in our own community.

Women's History Month began as a week-long observance in 1981 and grew into a month-long celebration in 1987, creating space to honor the often-overlooked achievements of women in every field — education, business, government, science, the arts, and community service. These pioneers paved the way for opportunities many of us benefit from today.

Here in La Verne and San Dimas, we are surrounded by inspiring women who lead with integrity, serve with compassion, and strengthen our community every day. I see that spirit firsthand in the dedicated members of our Club. Your volunteer hours, generosity, leadership, and friendship embody the very heart of what Women's History Month represents.

At our February meeting I gave a report on what the Club accomplished during 2025. The Club participated in 91 projects, provided 6,407 volunteer hours, donated $4,371, contributed in-kind donations valued at $25,909. The Club's 2025 fundraising efforts raised $8,732. These are all the results of the hard work and dedication the club members exhibited in their efforts to make a better community and help those in need.

This month, I encourage each of us to take time to honor the women who shaped our lives — mothers, grandmothers, mentors, teachers, colleagues, and friends. Let us celebrate their resilience and courage, while also recognizing the responsibility we share to continue building opportunities for future generations.

It is an honor to serve as President of the La Verne-San Dimas Woman's Club, an extraordinary organization. Together, we carry forward a legacy of strength, service, and sisterhood that makes a lasting impact.

Happy Women's History Month.

"Every woman's success should be an inspiration to another. We're strongest when we cheer each other on."
— Serena Williams, legendary professional tennis player

Carney.marlene@gmail.com

PRESIDENT'S AIDE/AMENITIES: Jennifer Nummelin

Daylight Savings Time is March 08th, don't forget to move your clocks forward! *That is, if any of you have more than one clock in your home, and don't rely upon digital clocks automatically changing on their own...

Our speakers are scheduled for April (Military Heroes), and May (EYEDAS). These are just 2 of the organizations with whom we collaborate. If you can think of other speakers you would like to present to us, let Jennifer know.

Jennifer jennummelin@aol.com

CO-FIRST VP/DEAN OF CHAIRMEN: Susan Minnihan & Linda Roache

For those of you that ventured out on a rainy/cold day for our February General Membership Meeting, you heard from Marlene the impressive statistics that were reported to our District in our year-end reports! Well done ladies!

We expressed our appreciation to Marina Salcido for her service as our Chairman over our Domestic Violence & Environment Programs, as she needed to step down from these chairmanships due to personal issues. We announced that Jennifer Nummelin and Candy Miller agreed to take over these positions immediately, as well as be added as the Chairmen for the 26-28 Term; thank you ladies!

We were also able to announce that one of our newer members, Natalie Fordyce stepped up as our Social Media person, taking over for Sue Herrera who has done a fabulous job keeping all informed of our Club involvement within the community on Facebook and Instagram. We appreciate Natalie for accepting this task, and she has mentioned that she would greatly welcome some assistance. Please contact her if you are interested.

Although this is not under our "umbrella" We'd like to recognize that Lisa Gomez is our new Third VP/Ways & Means as well as Fundraising Chairman, effective immediately as well as the 26-28 term. Natalie Fordyce will be working with her as the Lead on fundraising Projects. They already have things in the works! A huge thank you to both Lisa and Natalie.

With our Term ending in May, we'd like to see all Program Chairmen positions filled when the new First V.P. starts in June. Program Chairmen needed for the 26-28 Term are as follows:

***Arts & Culture** *(currently held by Tami Miller)*
Civic Engagement & Outreach *(currently held by Jennifer Nummelin & Candy Miller)*
Communications & Public Relations (currently Open)
Leadership & Protocol (*currently held by Shirley Vanderbeck)*
Legislation & Public Policy *(currently held by Barbara Randolph)*

*Attached is our “Getting to Know” series which focuses on Tami Miller and lists all that are currently under the Arts & Culture Program. If you have an interest in chairing this program, you can contact Tami, as the current chairman or one of us as your First V.P.’s to answer any questions you may have. (This goes as well for any of the other programs listed.)
In case you’re not ready to take on being a Program Chairman, there’s Lead positions available under many programs. Your involvement is needed!

We thank you for your consideration,
Susan Minnihan & Linda Roache

Susan susanminnihan@aol.com
Linda Roache lgroache@hotmail.com

CO-SECOND VP/MEMBERSHIP: Jody Mentzer & Sonya Whatley

March arrives with the promise of renewal. As the days grow longer and the first hints of spring begin to appear, we are reminded that this is a season of fresh starts and new possibilities. Our Club continues to bloom as well—through service, friendship, and our shared commitment to strengthening our community. Each meeting, project, and conversation reflects the heart of who we are: women working together with purpose and compassion.

March is also a time to celebrate women’s achievements and leadership, honoring the legacy of those who paved the way while encouraging the next generation to step forward. Within our own club, we see that legacy in action every day—through members who volunteer their time, mentor others, and quietly step in wherever help is needed. Your dedication makes a meaningful difference, and it does not go unnoticed.

As we move into this new season, let’s continue to invite others to experience the warmth and impact of our club. **Consider bringing a friend to an upcoming meeting or service project**. A simple invitation can open the door to lifelong friendships and a deeper sense of purpose. Together, we will continue to grow, serve, and inspire—making this March not only a month of change in nature, but a month of renewed energy and commitment in our club.

“As women, we must stand up for ourselves. We must stand up for each other. We must stand up for justice for all.” – Michelle Obama

Sonya srwhatley@yahoo.com
Jody foxyjody@verizon.net

>> Chairmen Chats <<

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH: Jennifer Nummelin & Candy Miller

Throughout the year, our Club works with many other philanthropic groups, by volunteering our time in their fundraising events, etc. Recently, a few of us volunteered at 'San Dimas Heroes Bingo and Pasta fundraiser', working alongside the San Dimas Senior Center Bingo Club members. It was a wonderful turnout. Who knew serving manicotti and salad could be so fun!

Once again, we are collecting chocolate bunnies to donate to Sowing Seeds, in their Easter giveaway. You can bring them to the March meeting, and Candy and Jennifer will deliver them.

Saturday, March 14th, we need volunteers to assist the Military Food Drive event, held at Masonic, from 9-3. Candy has a signup sheet, in 1.5-hour shifts. This is a very worthwhile project, as our enlisted military personnel need food, household cleaning supplies, and personal hygiene items. As the drive-through donations arrive, we help carry them in a bag or two, and it's that simple.

Saturday, April 18th, we are helping with the La Verne Wine Walk, from 4:30-7:00 p.m. Thus far, we have 4 members signed up, and we could use a few more. It is simple, we simply help with checking people in and handing out wine glasses. If you work, you will receive a free ticket to the event! See signup sheet, at the meeting.

Jennifer jennummelin@aol.com
Candy candysnrg@verizon.net

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE & SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS & PREVENTION: Jennifer Nummelin & Candy Miller

Now is a great time to participate in our various on-going projects. Crossroads accepts gently used women's clothes and shoes. Your donations will help women released from incarceration transition back into society. Donations can be delivered to 1269 Harvard Avenue in Claremont and placed in the driveway in front of the big red shed doors. Don't forget to write a note that donations were made by LV/SD Women's Club.

Please note that House of Ruth is not equipped to take in used items unless it has been arranged through their outreach personnel. House of Ruth does have a wish list of items in need for women and children who are victims of domestic violence along with a food & pantry list. If you are interested in donating and would like a copy of the wish list or pantry list, please email me at susanminnihan@aol.com You may drop off those wish list items at 599 N. Main Street in Pomona.

Shirley Vanderbeck will be collecting cellphones at our monthly meetings. Verizon will clean all data and set them to only make 911 calls. All cell phones are given to shelters who will distribute cell phones to victims of domestic violence. Help me give you the proper credit for all the fantastic work you do to support our programs. Please log in your time, money, and in-kind donations in project folders.

Susan @susanminnihan@aol.com

ENVIRONMENT: Jennifer Nummelin & Candy Miller

On April 25th, the annual Paws for Pets Walk is held on Saturday morning. It is the major fundraiser for the Inland Valley Humane Society, who serves 10 cities with spay/neuter services, adoptions, medical care, microchipping, and lost and found animals. If you can walk 1.5 miles, at a leisurely pace, join us at Bonelli Park. There is a vendor fair there as well. Register at ivhsspca.org

Also, on April 25th, the city of La Verne is hosting an Earth Day celebration, with booths, activities, and food. Held at Civic Center Park, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. And it's free!!

Jennifer jennummelin@aol.com
Candy candysnrg@verizon.net

FUNDRAISER: Natalie Fordyce

Spring See's Candies Fundraiser is Here!
We are excited to kick off our Spring See's Candies Fundraiser happening now through **March 20th**.

Whether you're celebrating a birthday, sending a sweet thank you, preparing Easter baskets, or simply treating yourself, See's Candies make every occasion a little sweeter. 🌸🐣
When you shop through our fundraising link, a portion of every purchase goes directly toward supporting the Club's community service projects and local outreach efforts.



✨ **Order online and ship directly to your home or a loved one!**

https://www.yumraising.com/store/spring-2026-lvsd-womans-club-chocolate-store-eadf/NatFor77249

Thank you for supporting and continuing serving our community with heart 💛

Natalie natalie2392@gmail.com

HEALTH & WELLNESS: Chairman Gloria Schaaf

Girls Love Mail: A handwritten letter/note has the special power to heal. Girls Love Mail collects your hand-written letters of encouragement, bundles them, and sends them, via the caring staff at cancer centers, to women newly diagnosed with breast cancer. Every letter is a gift from you to a woman going through a difficult time. This is a hands-on project that we will do during the general meeting in March. If you have any surplus note cards or blank greeting cards (should not exceed the measurements of 4.75" x 6.5) please bring them to the meeting.

Gloria guschaaf@yahoo.com

SOCIAL COMMITTEE: Jennifer Nummelin

Upcoming Events Info.:

MARCH
Fri 06th— Gab at Railside Cafe, 10 a.m. 322 San Dimas Ave., S.D. Near Arrow Highway.
Wed 11th—Lunch at Panera, 11 a.m. 2315 Foothill Blvd., L.V. Near Fruit St.
Sat 14th— The Orange Blossom Vendor Fair, 10 a.m. 5001 Via de Mansion, Heritage Park, L.V. Meet in front, at the Heritage Park sign. This is a small craft fair of local vendors.
Sat 21st— Hike at Big Dalton, 10 a.m. Meet at Mystic Cyn Trail sign. Lunch afterward, in Glendora.
Sun 29th— Easter Egg Dyeing, 2:00 p.m. Marilyn Caldwell's home, 5881 Via Marcia, L.V. Bring your own hard-boiled eggs, and decorating items.

APRIL
Sun 05th - Hike at Bonelli, 10 a.m.
Wed 08th- Dinner at Legend's, Glendora, 6:00 p.m.
Mon 13th- Gab at Butter Cafe, San Dimas, 10:00 a.m.
Sat 18th- L.V. Wine Walk, Maniero Square, near D Street, 5-8 p.m.
Sat 25th- Paws For Pets Walk fundraiser, at Bonelli, 9:00 a.m.
Sat 25th- La Verne Earth Day Fair, at Civic Center Park, 10:00-1:00 p.m.

Please let me know of any free or low-cost places you'd like to visit!
Jennifer jennummelin@aol.com

WOMANS HISTORY: Sue Bosek Herrera

March is American's Women's History Month! American women's history is the story of resilience, courage, and steady transformation. From the nation's earliest days to the present, women have shaped the political, social, economic, and cultural foundations of the United States—often without recognition, and often against significant resistance.

In colonial America, women's roles were largely confined to the home, yet their labor was essential to survival. During the American Revolution, women supported the war effort as nurses, fundraisers, and even disguised soldiers. One early advocate for women's rights, Abigail Adams, famously urged her husband to "remember the ladies" as the new nation formed its laws.

The 19th century marked a turning point. Women became active in reform movements, including abolition and temperance. In 1848, the Seneca Falls Convention—organized by leaders like Elizabeth Cady Stanton—launched the formal women's suffrage movement. After decades of activism, protests, and perseverance, the 19th Amendment was ratified in 1920, granting women the right to vote.

The 20th century brought both progress and new challenges. During World War II, millions of women entered the workforce to support the war effort, symbolized by the cultural icon "Rosie the Riveter." In the 1950s and 60s, women began challenging traditional expectations more openly. Leaders such as Betty Friedan sparked what became known as the second-wave feminist movement, advocating for workplace equality, reproductive rights, and educational opportunities. The Civil Rights Movement also highlighted the leadership of women like Rosa Parks, whose bravery became a catalyst for national change.

In recent decades, women have continued breaking barriers in politics, science, business, sports, and the arts by leading major corporations, serving on the Supreme Court, and competing at the highest levels of global athletics.

American women's history is not a single story—it is the combined voices of women of every race, class, background, and belief system. It includes the triumphs of trailblazers and the quiet strength of everyday women who shaped families and communities. While significant progress has been made, the pursuit of full equality continues.

Understanding American women's history is essential not only to honor the past, but to inspire future generations to lead, advocate, and build a more inclusive society for all.

Sue Sue.bosek@cvspm.com

>> On-going Projects <<

Project: Advocates for Children: Handmade beanies, scarves, and pillowcases are donated to the many foster children in our area. Donations may be given to me at any meeting

Project Lead: Cathy Koch granniepurpyl@gmail.com

Project: Fremont Academy Latina Club Boutique: Clothing for teens, women, men and children, and Household items. Members can drop off bags/items on my front porch or give them to me at any meeting.

Project Lead: Esther Garza-Maloney

Project: Civic Engagement & Outreach: Gently used coats & jackets - kids & adults' sizes - donations may be given to me at any meeting or send me a message & I'll pick them up at your home.

For the Inland Valley Humane Society collections of old towels and blankets is ongoing. You can bring them to our monthly meeting or contact Jennifer Nummelin for a drop-off location.

Project Lead: Jennifer Nummelin jennummelin@aol.com

Project: Domestic Violence: Old cell phones are taken to Best Buy to be wiped of all memory and reprogrammed with 9-1-1 and given to the Battered Women's Shelters. Bring them to me at the General Meeting each month.

Project Lead: Shirley Vanderbeck legalrabb@aol.com

Project: Environment: Rrecycling of aluminum cans or plastic bottles, please take them to the recycling center for cash redemption and forward the funds to our club treasurer, Cathy Koch.

Project Lead: Gayle gaylescreations67@gmail.com

Cups for Corky: Donate gently used cups and place them in the basket located on the stage at our monthly meetings.

Project Leads: Jennifer jennummelin@aol.com and Candy candysnrg@verizon.net

Health & Wellness: Eyeglasses (broken or not), eyeglass cases and pop tops from cans of soda, soup, dog & cat food, etc. Bring them to me at the General Meeting each month. Pop tops go to support the Ronald McDonald House; eyeglasses and cases go to Eye-DAS to support the blind.

Project Lead: Gloria guschaaf@yahoo.com

Getting to know…

Tami Miller
Arts & Culture Chairman



Tami is a charter member of our Club and past club president. Tami helms seven projects as Arts & Culture chairman. Tami will be stepping off in May as she becomes involved with Foothill District responsibilities. Thus, this program will be open for a new chairman to step in as well as project leaders to assist in the below listed projects.

Several of the projects such as Coloring and Game Events as well as the Easter Egg Dyeing Event are hosted by club members through social events as well. Tami has a procedure manual to pass on to anyone interested in chairing this program so please consider that position or a project leader – we need you!

***Writing Contest**: Annually, the District has a Writing Contest. Short stories of 2,000 words and poetry. Adults and Children may submit their written works. **
***Photography Contest**: Annually, the District has a photography Contest. Members and students can submit their photos, paintings, and/or drawings. **
***Craft Making** – Annually, members can submit items: crocheted, Decorative Painting, Sewing, Embroidery, Christmas Decorations, Easter Decorations, Knitting, Jewelry, Needlepoint, Quilting, toys, Trash to Treasure and Latch Hook work.**
***Coloring Get Together:** Members get together to color in adult coloring books and socialize
***Drumming Circle** – (Jennifer Nummelin) Members meet and play drums/percussion instruments as a drumming ensemble, mindfulness exercise and fun participation.
***Easter Egg Dyeing Event** – One member hosts other members getting together to dye Easter Eggs in a relaxed setting, having fun creating works of "egg" art and various dye colors.
***Game Night** – Members get together for a fun game night at a club member's house, participating in various games and socializing with each other.

Thank you, Tami

CELEBRATE!

ANNIVERSARIES

2017 - Nine Years
Elsie Considine
Susan Minnihan

2020 – Six Years
Sue Herrera
Candy Miller
Gloria Schaaf

2022 – Four Years
Jocelyn Campbell

2024 – Two Years
Veronica Fry
DorisvLackey

2025 – One Year
Patricia Llamas



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



March 2nd Linda Roache

Volunteer Opportunities

Giving your time, energy, and heart to others isn't always easy, but it's one of the most meaningful things you can do.

The following volunteer opportunities are still open (we need YOU); Please contact the Project Leader for additional information

Civic Engagement: Candy Miller

March 14th Military Food Drive. Volunteers are needed for 10:30 to 12:00 shift and the 1:30 to 3:00 shift

April 18th. La Verne Wine Walk. 4:30 to 7:00. One additional volunteer needed to check in attendees. Free entry to Wine Walk after.

candysnrg@verizon.net

MEMBERS IN ACTION

Afternoon Tea at the Enchanted Tea Room on 2/21/2026



Members supporting the San Dimas H.E.R.O.E.S Veteran Monument Fundraiser on 2/21/2026







Gab and Breakfast at the Broken Yolk on Feb 25



WEBSITE: lvsd.org
INSTAGRAM: gfwclvsdwomansclub
FACEBOOK: GFWC LVSD