Orange Blossom Gazette

GFWC LA VERNE-SAN DIMAS WOMAN'S CLUB NEWSLETTER

February 2025 Issue 90

President: Marlene Carney
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Newsletter Editor: Gloria Schaaf
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Every act of kindness sparkles like a star.
Embrace the power of kindness and shine brightly.





CALENDAR OF EVENTS

08 - Hike at Big Dalton Canyon, 10 a.m.
12 - Gab at Butter Cafe, 10 a.m.
19 - Lunch at Antigua Bread, 11 a.m.
20 - General Meeting 6:30
27 - Gab at Panera 10:00 a.m.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

08 - Military Food Collection
08 - District Convention
15 - Tea Luncheon at Enchanted Rose
20 - Gab at the Bagelry and Brew
20 - General Meeting 6:30
29 -The Orange Blossom Festival

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: Sue Herrera
Recording Secretary: Barbara Randolph
Treasurer: Cathy Koch
Parliamentarian: Pat Borchard
Corresponding Secretary: Eleonore Burress

MONTHLY CLUB CONTEST

Find the hidden symbol embedded in the monthly newsletter text. Anyone that locates the symbol, should inform Gloria Schaaf at guschaaf@yahoo.com of its location by text message, e-mail or send a picture from your phone no later than the 12th of each month. Those individuals that have correctly located the symbol will be entered into a drawing for a gift card. The drawing will be held during the General Club Meeting and the gift Card presented to the winner.

The symbol to find for February: 
This will be an ongoing monthly contest with a new symbol each month. Good Luck to all.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:
Marlene Carney

February is upon us and a time for reflection. Last month brought us one of the largest disasters in Southern California. The winds and fires created enormous challenges and tragedies for so many individuals, families, businesses, and organizations. I feel very fortunate to have simply dealt with a power outage given that so many lost their homes, their lives, and their livelihood. Our thoughts are with all those that suffered and I hope that we can do our part in helping those that had to deal with great loss.

February also represents some wonderful celebrations. Notable observances are Black History Month, American Heart Month, National Self Check Month, Library Lovers Month, Snack Food Month, Super Bowl Sunday, and the list goes on. It is also Valentine's Day, and it is mandatory to share the love with your friends, your family, your pets and most important make sure you treat yourself with love. Each day has a list of celebrations and there are many but some of my favorites are National Wear Red Day (2/7), Doggie Date Night (2/3), Spunky Old Broads Day (2/1), National Make a Friend Day (2/11). Let's celebrate the month at our February 20th club meeting by wearing Red.

This month we will be collecting nomination forms for Club Member of the Year and Citizen of the Year. This gives us an opportunity to recognize our members that have gone above and beyond in serving the club and/or serving their communities and their families. It is always tough to pick just one member for each category as everyone contributes so much. Your participation in helping us choose the recipients is greatly appreciated.

I want to give a shout out to some accomplishments in January. Our Advocates for Children Chairwoman, Susan Hope, in supporting Shoes That Fit Charity, organized a small group of club members to volunteer their time sorting shoes and essentials for Los Angeles County fire victims. It is proven here that small acts of kindness make an enormous impact within our communities.

Thank you to Sue Herrera who organized a fabulous "Taste of Italy" Wine Tasting class generously donated and hosted by Total Wine San Dimas. Each guest brought an appetizer, tasted eight wines from various regions in Italy, held a raffle and enjoyed lots of camaraderie. Most importantly, the event raised $300 in donations from this event, which will go right back into our community to support projects like Shepherd's Pantry, Sowing Seeds for Life, Freedom Bags Project, LeRoy Haynes Family of Programs, City of Hope and House of Ruth.

A shout out to Jody Mentzer and Sonya Whatley who recruited 3 new members in January. We continue our path of philanthropy and friendship and look forward to all the exciting projects and activities planned for 2025. Onward and upward ladies. Continue to tell all about the wonderful things this club is doing.

"February is the perfect time to plant the seeds of gratitude and watch them bloom throughout the year." *Sarah Ban Breathnach, Simple Abundance: A Daybook of Comfort and Joy (1995)*

Carney.marlene@gmail.com
909-996-6021

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

I know that the year has started out with a lot of worry and concern with the wildfires. But we do what we do best, and that is to give help where needed. Our Advocates for Children chairman, Susan Hope, shared a request from Shoes That Fit, one of our on-going projects. They needed people to help sort shoes at their warehouse so they could be distributed to the fire victims. Susan sent that request with a sign-up sheet and before I could check my schedule, the slots were almost all taken! Thank you all who volunteered.

With everything going on, it was so great to see so many members and prospective members at our January meeting. In case you missed it, we announced that the chairmen reports were all received on time or even ahead of time. We are so appreciative for all our chairmen's hard work and well written reports. We were able to review, approve and send them to District even ahead of the timeline given. Hats off to our wonderful chairmen and their project Leads, who are also instrumental in accomplishing all that we do! President Marlene relayed our year-end statistics including the number of hours and in-kind donations given; they are quite impressive! We can and do make a difference with our community projects. You all deserve kudos for the time and effort you all give!

Let's keep up the great work by continuing to sign-up for projects. Please check out within this newsletter for Chairmen's articles for information and any announcements made here or at our meetings. Remember, we can't accomplish all that we do without your participation.

Thank you again for all you do to make this a wonderful, caring club!

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

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

Where does the time go. January has flown by. A new year, and what a year it's been so far. A year with a beginning that will be remembered by most of us for years to come. Suddenly it's February and Valentines Day. There are many celebrations and observances in February. Among them American Heart month, Cancer Awareness Month and Black History Month. Three new members joined us at the January Meeting bringing our membership to fifty-three.

- Nancy Buchanan took time checking us out and came prepared with her application already filled out. Nancy has four children and eight grandchildren. She is retired from. City of Hope. Nancy's hobbies include crocheting, sewing, and gardening. She joined to give back to her community
- Jo Ann Earhart saw our members collecting food at Stater Bros. last summer and checked us out on Facebook. She likes to bake, read and garden. Jo Ann is a retired domestic engineer. She has four children and six grandchildren. She wanted to be a part of a service community and immediately got involved by volunteering at Shoes That Fit.
- Althea Bennett attended bunco and was asked by a member (Tami Miller) to join us. Althea has two children, four grandchildren and two great grandchildren. She moved to La Verne to be nearer to them.

Our goals continue to be building the membership, membership retention and promoting the value of belonging to this fabulous club focused on helping the community and having fun at the same time. Membership in the GFWC La Verne-San Dimas Woman's Club has been a huge plus in the lives of so many. The projects that we have worked on, the social events we have experienced, the smiles on the faces of those we serve, the friendships gained, and the camaraderie has been so rewarding. We encourage all our members to promote the club and all that we do. Tell your friends about the club and invite them to join us. Our combined efforts make a huge difference in the lives of so many and they make a difference in our own lives.

A closing thought: "The greatest gift you can give someone is your TIME. Because when you give time, you're giving a portion of your life you'll never get back." Author unknown



Last month I forgot to send the picture of the ladies who were initiated at the “Christmas Extravaganza.” Sorry ladies that this is a little late.

Sonya srwhatley@yahoo.com
Jody foxyjodi@verizon.com

THIRD VP/WAYS & MEANS:
Sue Herrera

Happy Sweethearts Month, ladies!

I'm excited to report that our Taste of Italy Wine Tasting Fundraiser at Total Wine & More in San Dimas was a lot of fun! We raised $300 which will be added to the proceeds we made from the Bunco & Brew Fall Fundraiser we hosted last November.



Taste of Italy Wine Tasting Fundraiser

It is now time to divvy up the proceeds and deliver the donation checks to the charities we chose last summer to support which were Shepherd's Pantry, Sowing Seeds for Life, Freedom Bags Project, LeRoy Haynes Family of Programs, Chemo Care Packages and House of Ruth. I will make an announcement as to when I'll be delivering checks if any of you would like to join me to pose for pictures for our social media pages. This type of exposure truly gets the community excited to back our efforts; therefore, these photo opportunities are really important in order to be transparent with the funds raised and make our efforts known out there!

We currently have a Little Caesar's Pizza "Meal Deals" Fundraiser going on now through February 18th. Simply follow the link or scan the QR code shown. Once you add items to your cart and pay, your Meal Deal code will be emailed to you and then simply follow the instructions in the email to redeem your code at ANY time. This is an AWESOME campaign since Super Bowl is here (or use the code next summer. Anytime is a GREAT time for pizza)! Please spread the word to family, friends, co-workers, neighbors, and all pizza lovers in your life to help us back the non-profits we support one slice at a time!



https://fundraising.littlecaesars.com/fundraiser/meal-deal/856fc2bc-8787-4ae6-be1c-b689ec84af1d/products

Again, I am stepping down as Third V.P. / Ways and Means in May so the Executive Committee is looking for someone to step in to the position as well as form an eight to ten person Bunco & Brew Fundraiser Committee. This committee is the ONLY way we will be able to continue our largest fundraiser of the year; it takes a village to make this type of event truly successful (not just stepping up the day of the event, but beginning in August through the autumn event). By forming this committee and each member taking on a task, the annual event would run smoothly, become more of a club effort fundraising event, and alleviate the stress and amount of work from one person. Who is willing to give this a shot? Full training is available. Let me know!

Sue sue.bosek@cvspm.com

TREASURER: Cathy Koch

Reminder

From now on, I'll be bringing a box of envelopes to the meetings. Anyone giving me cash needs to please write on the envelope your name, amount of cash, and reason. This will help me greatly when I get home and need to remember.

Cathy Koch granniepurpyl@gmail.com

>> Chairmen Chats <<

ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN: Susan Hope

We had three wonderful teams at the Shoes that Fit Warehouse January 21 -24. They worked tirelessly sorting shoes for Eaton Fire victims. The volunteers did a magnificent job! Amy Fass, CEO and Executive Director, joined us. Amy explained this organization recently received a donation of 21,000 shoes! It looks like we will have additional opportunities to volunteer!





A big thank you to Doris Lackey, Candy Miller, Barbara Randolph, Brenda Eaton, Donna Fuller, Joann Earhart, Elise Considine, Bianca Battles, Jennifer Stone, Pat Borchard, and Susan Minnihan. These hardworking ladies truly represent the spirit and dedication of our club members!

Susan foster.hope@verizon.net

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH:
Jennifer Nummelin &
Candy Miller

Happy February, Ladies! Hopefully it'll be more compassionate to us than January was. First of all, you made my day when the volunteer list for the Military Heroes Food Drive was filled by the end of our January meeting. Your enthusiasm and willingness to help those who reach out to us is heartwarming. The event will be held on March 8 from 8am to 3pm at a warehouse at 2100 Arrow Hwy (southeast corner of Arrow at "D" St.). Contrary to popular belief, military personnel do NOT receive everything free, and many of them are young families with multiple needs. Please consider helping with your time, donations, etc. If you're interested in contributing to the military families that are experiencing food insecurity, in-kind donations of non-perishable food will also be welcomed. Thank you for advancing the image of kindness and caring that our Club demonstrates in the community. See you then!

We are once again collecting chocolate bunnies for Sowing Seeds, and request they be brought to the MARCH meeting.

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

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE & SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS & PREVENTION:
Marina Salcido

Happy February to all,

Just a reminder that we have various on-going projects that can help you clear out any of your old items and make room for your new.

- 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.

-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. If you are interested in donating and would like a copy of the wish list, please message Marina at dirt4us4@yahoo.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 the 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, monetary, and in-kind donations in the project folders.

Marina dirt4us4@yahoo.com

LIBRARIES:
Chairman Dian Moravek

SAN DIMAS LIBRARY PROJECT

Hello Ladies, would you like to contribute Knowledge, Entertainment and Adventure to those in your community? If so, there's a project just for you, and it only requires 2 hours of your choice per month. It's the San Dimas Library project. Your community members donate books to the Friends of the San Dimas Library. Then, they must be sorted and priced at 50 cents or $1.00 each. The income from these sales help to provide books, games and live presentations that would not otherwise be available to all age groups. If you would like to know more about this project, please email or see me for more information. You would be welcomed and appreciated.

Dian dianmoravek@yahoo.com

ENVIRONMENT:
Chairman Marina Salcido

Thank you to all that participated in our environmental projects last year. Your participation impacts our environment in a positive way. For all our new members, there are several environmental projects that you can participate in all year long and at your own pace. You all have an opportunity to participate in an environmental project at every monthly meeting. During each meeting a collection box is passed around the room for Penny Pines which helps our reforestation efforts in the San Bernardino mountains or Heifer International which supports a specific project or animal.

Let's continue with our on-going projects: collecting those gently used cups for Corky. Bring those cups to each meeting and give them to Pat Borchard. Every plastic bottle or aluminum can that is recycled helps both our environment and our local school. Please take them to a recycling center and give your donation to our club treasurer Cathy Koch. Your donations will be forwarded to Bonita High School Band to help purchase equipment and uniforms. Every member can participate by bringing your own beverage cup to our monthly meetings. You are assisting in the reduction of Styrofoam waste in our local landfill. We will continue accepting any gently used towels and bedding for Inland Valley Humane Society. Your donations will help keep many animals warm this, Winter. You can bring them to our meeting or contact Jennifer Nummelin.

If you have any questions, please contact Marina at (626) 643-0912 or come talk to me at our next meeting if you have any ideas of how we can help our environment.

Marina dirt4us4@yahoo.com

HEALTH & WELLNESS: Gloria Schaaf

February evokes images of red hearts most relatable to Valentine's Day; However, in 1964 President Lyndon B. Johnson designated February as American Heart Month. Since then, every year, the president has issued a proclamation to recognize the month. February is the month when all people-especially women are encouraged to focus on their cardiovascular health.

If you are reading this, in recognition of **Heart Health Month** I am asking members to wear red at the February 20th general meeting.

Girls Love Mail: A hand-written 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.

Gloria guschaaf@yahoo.com

SOCIAL COMMITTEE: Jennifer Nummelin

Upcoming Events Info.:

FEBRUARY
Sat 08th—Hike at Big Dalton Canyon, Glendora. 10 a.m. Lunch afterward, at Crust and Crumble. *Sue Herrera is the contact for this event. Bring comfy walking shoes.
Wed 12th—Gab at Butter Cafe, San Dimas. 10 a.m.
Wed 19th—Lunch at Antigua, La Verne. 11 a.m.
Thurs 27th— Gab at Panera, La Verne. 10 a.m.

MARCH
Sat 08th— Military Food Collection, 9-3 *Candy is the contact for this event.
Day 08th— District Convention, 10-2 *Pat is the contact for this event.
Sat 15th— Tea Luncheon at Enchanted Rose, San Dimas. 11:30. Cost is $23. Must be paid/signed up by the 08th.
Thurs 20th— Gab at the Bagelry and Brew, La Verne. 10 a.m.
Sat 29th—The Orange Blossom Festival, Heritage Park, 10-3 *more info coming.

We are looking for someone to host EASTER EGG DYEING on Sunday April 13th!!!
We are looking for someone to host COLORING on Sunday May 04th!!
Please let me know if you can host— I will help with set up, snacks, clean up, etc. ☺

Jennifer jennummelin@aol.com





Look at Jen, A Bulls Eye. The girls got together for the 1st Ax Throwing event on January 28th.

>> On-going Projects <<



I will be collecting homemade (knitted, crocheted, sewn) beanies, scarves, & pillow cases to be donated to the Foster Family Agencies in our area. This is an ongoing project. Please bring whatever you're donating to each meeting & I'll get them where they need to go. (And please keep track of money & time spent.) Thank you!

Cathy Koch granniepurpyl@gmail.com



Every meeting I collect eyeglasses (broken or not), eyeglass cases, old cell phones, and pop tops from cans of soda, soup, dog & cat food, etc. Bring them and I will collect them. Pop tops go to support the Ronald McDonald House; eyeglasses and cases go to Eye-DAS to support the blind; and old cell phones are erased and reprogrammed with 9-1-1 and given to the Battered Women's Shelters.

Please, we are not in need of any more condiments. I have a full shopping bag to deliver to the USO, so please stop collecting for a while.

Shirley Vanderbeck legalrabb@aol.com



Cups for Corky is our on-going Environment project. Those getting started early on your Spring cleaning can make room on those shelves by donating your gently used cups to Corky's. The Cups for Corky's basket will be on the stage at our monthly meetings.

Everyone can help reduce the waste in our landfill by bringing your own cup to each meeting.

Gayle klasiccat@gmail.com
Marina dirt4us4@yahoo.com

Secret Sisters: Tami Miller

There is still room to sign up. We currently have 14 members signed up. If you were a Secret Sister last year and want to participate this year, just email me. If you are new to this project email me and I will send you the Information Sheet.

Tami club1270deventer@yahoo.com

Happy Anniversary

None



Happy Birthday

Sheree Cervantes – 2/1
Gayle Garcia – 2/2
Susan Hope – 2/2
Jenel Izaguirre – 2/6
Olivia Cardenas – 2/17
Wendy Clark-Paolini – 2/18
Dian Moravek – 2/18

INSTAGRAM: @gfwclvsd
FACEBOOK: gfwclaverne-sandimas
WEBSITE: lvsd.org___

January '25

S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

La Verne - San Dimas Woman's Club

February 2025

March '25

S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29 Chinese New Year	30	31	1  Sheree Cervantes
2 Groundhog Day  Gayle Garcia Susan Hope	3	4	5	6  Jenel Izaguirre	7	8 Hike at Big Dalton Canyon 10:00
	10	11	12 Gab at Butter Café 10:00	13	14 Valentine's Day	15
16	17 Presidents' Day  Olivia Cardenas	18  Wendy Clark-Paolini Dian Moravek	19 Lunch at Antigua Bread 11:00	20 General Meeting 6:30	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 Gab at Panera 10:00	28	1 Ramadan (1st day)
2	3	Notes			Calendar Templates by Vertex42.com https://www.vertex42.com/calendars/ © 2022 Vertex42 LLC. Free to print. 2025 Calendars 2026 Calendars	