

GFWC Mount Diablo District (MDD)

BEACON

September 2026

“Be a Beacon of Service for Others”

President's Message

Dear GFWC Mount Diablo District Members,

Fall is in the air, and we are off to a wonderful start to our new club year!

I wish every club a successful first meeting and a year filled with friendship, service, and meaningful accomplishments.

Please show your support by attending the Area A Conference on October 3 at The Woman's Club of Lodi. It will be a great opportunity to connect with fellow members, exchange ideas, and celebrate the important work of our clubs.

Our Mount Diablo District website is currently under construction and is temporarily unavailable. In the meantime, please use the following link to register for the conference:

Purchase Area A Conference Tickets

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/area-a>

Thank you for your patience and understanding. I look forward to seeing you in Lodi!

With appreciation,

Karen Rickman
GFWC Mount Diablo District
President



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

(Subject to Change)

2026 GFWC & CFWC & MDD Calendar

September 10	Executive Board Meeting (ALL MEMBERS) - Dublin
September 11-13	GFWC WSR (Western States Region) Park City, UT
October 3	CFWC Area A Conference - The Women's Club of Lodi, Lodi, CA
October 8	Executive Committee Meeting - Via Zoom
October 10	CFWC Area B Conference - TBA
October 17	CFWC Area C Conference - TBA
October 24	CFWC Area D Conference - TBA
November 12	Executive Board Meeting (ALL MEMBERS) - GFWC Woman's Club of Antioch
December 10	Executive Committee Meeting - Location TBA

2027 Calendar

January 14	Executive Board Meeting (ALL MEMBERS) - Federated Women of Upper Napa Valley
February 11	Executive Committee Meeting - Via Zoom
February 19-21	CFWC Executive Board Meeting, Sacramento, CA
March 11	MDD Arts & Crafts Festival (ALL MEMBERS)
April 10	GFWC Mount Diablo District Convention
April 24	GFWC FEDERATION DAY
May	CFWC Convention - Southern CA - TBA
May 13	Executive Committee Meeting - Via Zoom
June	GFWC Convention - TBA
June 10	Executive Committee Meeting (Budget)
July	NO DISTRICT MEETING
August 12	Executive Committee Meeting (Planning) - TBA
August 28-29	CFWC Executive Board Meeting, San Jose, CA -
September 9	Executive Board Meeting (ALL MEMBERS) - TBA
September	GFWC WSR (Western States Region) - TBA
October 9	CFWC Area B Conference - TBA
October 14	Executive Committee Meeting - Via Zoom
October 16	CFWC Area C Conference - TBA
October 23	CFWC Area D Conference - TBA
October 30	CFWC Area A Conference - TBA
November 11	Executive Board Meeting (ALL MEMBERS)
	VETERAN'S DAY - Location TBD
December 9	Executive Committee Meeting - Location TBD

Did You Know...?

As a member of GFWC Mount Diablo District, you are also a member of the California Federation of Women's Clubs (CFWC) and the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC).

The California Federation of Women's Clubs (CFWC) was organized in January 1900 and in May became the 37th state to join the GFWC. We are currently the largest State Federation in GFWC with 9,000+ members!

Purchased in 1922, GFWC Headquarters is located a few blocks from the White House in Washington, D.C. It was designated a National Historical Landmark in 1991 by the National Park Service and the Secretary of the Interior in recognition of its national significance in commemorating the history of the United States of America.

General Federation of Women's Clubs



HEADQUARTERS
WASHINGTON D.C.
(1941-1942)

It is also one of the sites listed in the "Women's History Guide to Washington, D.C.," produced by the President's Commission on the Celebration of Women in American History.

In addition to housing the administrative offices and the National Women's History & Resource Center, it is the residence of our International President during her two-year term.

HEALTH & WELLNESS – NANCY KRUEGER, Chair

GFWC states that a walk isn't just good for your body, it is a simple and powerful way to care for your mind and soul.

Their Community Service Program aims to explore the various opportunities for awareness and advancement of effective disease prevention, body nutrition, physical and emotional well-being. Have open discussions about heart disease, pro active behaviors and habits, and invite guest speakers to your Federation meetings.

I would like to emphasize holistic health & wellness awareness projects such as: disease prevention for at-risk adults, nutrition with whole foods, movement of all types, and emotional care that includes brain health. Keep on encouraging each other to, "Move For A Healthier You".

Article Submitted by: Stephanie Zichichi

Reprint from August 10, 2026 CFWC QuickBytes



Do you have a story, article, or announcement to share in the *Beacon*? Please send your submission to Jan McDonnal by the 18th of the month.

janmcdonnal@yahoo.com

GFWC Mount Diablo District Executive Board Meeting



HEART HEALTH

American Heart Association.



DATE: Thursday, September 10, 2026
LOCATION: Dublin Library (Dublin Civic Center)
 200 Civic Plaza, Dublin, CA 94568
PAYABLE TO: GFWC Dublin/San Ramon Women's Club
MEETING FEE: \$30.00 – Pay at the door
RSVP: by Friday, September 4, 2026, to Kay Porter at
gfwcmddcommunicateRSVP@yahoo.com

Zoom Link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83211877698?pwd=bQErpyvxFfYrSdeCTipsI9CqXGJbYL1>

Meeting ID: 832 1187 7698—Passcode: 374061

AGENDA – (Subject to Change)

- 9:30 am Check In/Waiting Room Opens
- 10:00 am Call to Order – Karen Rickman, President
 Pledge of Allegiance – Mary Rocha, President Elect/1st Vice President/Dean of Chairs
 Sing – America the Beautiful
 Meeting Rules & Zoom Protocol – Amy Scudder, Parliamentarian
- 10:05 am Welcome
- 10:15 am Inspiration – Pat Anderson, Inspiration Chair
- 10:20 am Officer Reports – Executive Committee Officers
- 10:50 am District Chairs (3)
- 11:10 am Club Presidents– Attending Club Presidents (2 minutes each)
- 11:45 am Grace/Lunch Break
- 12:30 pm Keynote Speaker –  “Heart of Service” 
- 1:00 pm Unfinished Business
- 1:10 pm New Business
- 1:20 pm Announcements
- 1:25 pm Recite – the Collect & Sing - Let There Be Peace On Earth
- 1:30 pm Meeting Adjourned

*Leadership Tip *

By Carol Lopez Lucey
Former Leadership Chair

At your first general meeting, be sure to have your Chairperson or Program Chairs report. New members may not be familiar with Military Women's Memorial, Penny Pines, CFWC or GFWC.

Sharing helps ensure that all members are on board. Most definitely, have your members go to the front of the room to present reports.

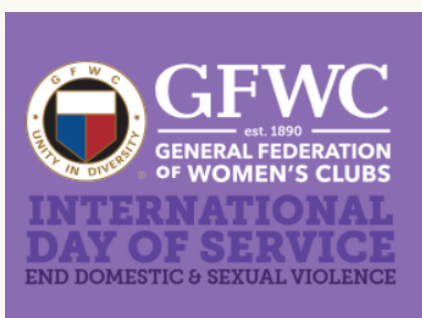
If you have a microphone, please educate members how to use the microphone so they can be heard by everyone.

President's Project

As MDD President, Karen Rickman has chosen **Heart Health** as her President's Project.

Knowing what factors can contribute to heart disease and stroke and talking to your health care professional about your unique risk is step one to living a longer and healthier life.

Go Red for Women www.goredforwomen.org



Approximately 1 in 3 women and 1 in 10 men 18 years of age or older experience domestic violence. Annually, domestic violence is responsible for over 1,500 deaths in the United

States. To combat this serious and challenging public health problem, the 2026 GFWC International Day of Service is focused on ending domestic and sexual violence.

On September 26, 2026, the GFWC International Day of Service unites all GFWC clubs, States, Regions and International Affiliates behind a shared mission. When we come together on one day with one purpose, the impact creates a powerful ripple effect of hope, safety, and support in communities everywhere.

One day. One purpose. One voice for lasting change.

Register today!

<https://memberportal.gfwc.org/pages/gfwc-international-day-of-service>

"There is something so special in the early leaves drifting from the trees—as if we are all to be allowed a chance to peel, to refresh, to start again."

— RUTH AHMED





From Hospice of San Joaquin:

A big thank you to the
Woman's Club Quilters of
Lodi for their ongoing
support of our
Camp Caterpillar program.
We are grateful to receive the
group's beautifully hand-
made quilts and are excited
to share them at camp on
September 12th, 2026 with
all the kids!

WOMEN'S PRO BASEBALL IS HERE!

By Colleen Janssen



It's finally here - the Women's Pro Baseball League, also known as WPBL. Teams have been formed in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Boston, and New York, and games begin on August 1. Tickets are available now.

This will be no League of Their Own -there will be no short skirt uniforms; these are real players playing baseball, not softball. Little girls everywhere will now have their own heroines to watch and emulate in the world of professional women's baseball.

California can be proud of the women from our state who will be playing in the league. Out of 118 players from around the world, California has 12. Take a look at these names and get ready to root for your favorites. The players from California, their hometown, and their team, include:

Jamie Mackay, Laguna Beach, Los Angeles
 Brittany Womack, San Diego, WPBL Los Angeles
 Trinity Curtis, Oakhurst, WPBL Los Angeles
 Kelsie Whitmore, San Diego, WPBL San Francisco
 Jill Albayati, Anaheim, WPBL San Francisco
 Peyton Coria, Perris, WPBL San Francisco
 Kaelei Kajitani, Madera, WPBL SSan Francisco
 Bella Espinoza-Molina, Ladera Ranch, WPBL San Francisco
 Allie Lacy, La Crescenta, WPBL San Francisco
 Kate Blunt, Ladera Ranch, WPBL San Francisco
 Keira Izumi, San Diego, WPBL New York
 Alyssa Zettlemoyer, Murietta, WPBL New York

**As Seen In
California Clubwoman
Magazine!**

Season runs August 1 thru mid-September 2026. For more information visit;

<https://www.cfwc.org/wp-content/uploads/JUNE-2026-CLUBWOMAN-EDITED-REDO-FINAL-2.pdf>

California Federation of Women's Clubs Area A Conference Registration

October 3, 2026

9:30 am Registration – 10:00 am Conference



Kelly Davis, CFWC Area A VP

Theme - "Painting The Future One Brush Stroke At A Time"



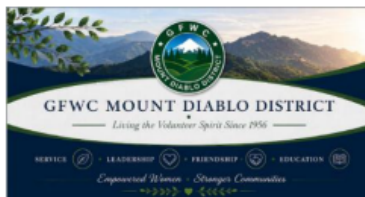
~The city of Lodi, is located in San Joaquin County, in the central portion of California's Central Valley~

Conference Location: The Woman's Club of Lodi, 325 West Pine Street, Lodi, CA

Registration Mail to: Kay Porter, President's Advisor, GFWC Mount Diablo District
1606 Highland Way, Brentwood, CA 94513

Remit Check: Payable to **GFWC Mount Diablo District** – Mail to same address above

Payment On-line at: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/area-a>



Scroll down to bottom of home page and click on the picture to pay.
Cost: \$50.00 (Includes Continental Breakfast, with coffee/tea/water.)

NO HOST WINE BAR available - including Breakfast Mimosas

Deadline for registration is September 18, 2026

REGISTRATION MUST BE PREPAID

Name _____

Address _____

Email Address _____

Phone Number _____

Club Name _____

Is this your first time attending an Area A Conference?

___ YES ___ NO

Menu: Chicken Parmigiana, Green Salad w/Vinaigrette Dressing, Focaccia Bread and Apple Hill Cake w/Carmel Sauce & Whipped Cream. Water, Iced Tea & Coffee.

NO HOST WINE BAR available.

Gluten Free ___ YES ___ NO

Please Note: Allergies are the responsibility of each person.

For Office Use:

Date Received: _____

Check # _____

California Federation of Women's Clubs Area A Conference Information October 3, 2026

Deadline: September 18, 2026

Registration and Luncheon Fee: \$50.00

Registration Chairperson:

Kay Porter, President's Advisor, GFWC Mount Diablo District

1606 Highland Way, Brentwood, CA 94513—lenoredesigns@yahoo.com—925.565.9120 (work #)

Please Make Checks Payable to: GFWC Mount Diablo District

LODGING NEARBY

Poppy Sister Inn
533 West Oak St., Lodi 209-625-9021

Rated 4.8 (breakfast, parking & wi-fi included)
www.poppysisterinn.com

Appellation Lodi—Wine & Roses Resort and Spa
2505 W. Turner Rd., Lodi 209-334-6988

Rated 4.5 (**NO** breakfast; coffee, parking & wi-fi included) <https://www.winerose.com/hotel>

Candlewood Suites
1345 E. Kettleman Lane, Lodi 209-333-3355

Rated 4.5 (**NO** breakfast; coffee, parking & wi-fi included) www.ihg.com

Fairfield by Marriott
262 Rocky Lane, Lodi 855-297-1429

Rated 4.4 (breakfast, parking & wi-fi included)
www.marriott.com/Fairfield_inn/loDI

Hampton Inn & Suites Lodi
1337 S. Beckman Rd., Lodi 209-369-2700

Rated 4.3 (breakfast, parking & wi-fi included)
www.hamptoninn3.hilton.com

Best Western I-5 Inn & Suites
6411 W. Banner St., Lodi 877-237-8791

Rated 4.0 (breakfast, parking & wi-fi included)
www.bestwestern.com

DINING

<https://www.alishaarnold.com/blog/loDI-restaurants> (fav Lodi eateries)

https://www.tripadvisor.com/Restaurants-g32640-Lodi_California.html (top ten restaurants)

SHOPPING

www.visitloDI.com

www.townsquarepublications.com/downtown-loDI

PLACES TO VISIT

Lodi Lake; 1101 W. Turner Rd., Lodi

www.loDI.gov/348/Lodi-Lake Parking is \$5

Lodi Wine Visitor Center; 2545 W. Turner Rd., Lodi 209-365-0621

www.loDIwine.com

Micke Grove Zoo; 11793 Micke Grove Rd., Lodi 209-331-2010

www.mgzoo.com

Historical Society at Micke Grove 209-331-2055 & Fun Town at Micke Grove 209-369-7330

Parkwest Casino Lodi (Card Room); 1800 S. Cherokee Lane, Lodi (24 Hours) 209-334-9777

www.parkwestcasinolodi.com

Woodbridge Ecological Reserve (AKA Isenberg Crane Reserve); 7730 W. Woodbridge 7 Rd., Lodi

www.wildlife.ca.gov/Lands/Place-to-Visit/Woodbridge-ER

World of Wonders Science Museum; 2 N. Sacramento St., Lodi 209-368-0969

www.wowsciencemuseum.org

Thank you to our Districts—Alameda, Loma Prieta, Redwood, Shasta, Sutter, & GFWC Mount Diablo

CFWC Area A Conference



CFWC Top Three Officers Cindy, Chris, and Mickie

CFWC President, Chris Herzog's Theme **BE USEFUL – BE LOVING – BE FEDERATED** **Saturday, October 3, 2026**

The Woman's Club of Lodi, 325 West Pine Street, Lodi, CA

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85666695817?pwd=rCbs0pZa85maYILSdglh1E950vzSpv.1>

Meeting ID: 856 6669 5817—Passcode: 655483

(SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

9:30	Registration: Breakfast Goodies, Juice & Coffee (30 min)	Kay Porter, GFWC MDD Advisor
10:00	Call to Order (1 min)	Kelly Davis, CFWC Area A VP
	Opening Ceremonies:	
10:01	Pledge of Allegiance (1 min)	Olma O'Neill, Loma Prieta District President
10:02	America the Beautiful (3 min)	Cindi Bainbridge, Redwood District President
10:05	Inspiration (5 min)	Lynn Godwin, Sutter District President
10:10	Community Welcome (5 min)	Julie Mortenson, The WC of Lodi, President
10:15	CFWC Area A Welcome and Introductions (5 min)	Kelly Davis, CFWC Area A VP
10:20	District Welcome (5 min)	Karen Rickman, Mount Diablo District President
10:25	Recognition of First Time Attendees (10 min)	Kelly Davis, CFWC Area A VP
10:35	Membership Recruiting Workshop (30 min)	Mickie Reed, CFWC 2 nd VP
11:05	Stepping Up In Leadership (20 min)	Kelly Davis, CFWC Area A VP
11:25	Joys of Report Writing (30 min)	Cindy Sanders, CFWC 1 st VP
11:55	Table Blessing/Luncheon (45 min)	Toni Lima, Shasta District President
12:40	Be Useful, Be Loving, Be Federated (30 min)	Chris Herzog, CFWC President
1:10	Heads & Tails Game (Fundraiser) (10 min)	Lynn Confetti-Ledbetter, CFWC Treasurer
1:20	District Presidents (18 min): (speeches, no longer than 3 minutes please)	
1:38	Announcements (10 min):	
1:48	District Basket Drawing/Ticket Sellers (10 min):	Susan Ramsey Johnson, Alameda District Pres
1:58	"Collect" & "Let There Be Peace on Earth" (3 min)	Toni Lima, Shasta District President & Kay Porter
2:00	Closing/Adjournment:	Kelly Davis, CFWC Area A VP

♥ TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.



Looking for a Few Members to Help:

Nominations will be taken from the floor at the September 10th District Meeting for the District Bylaws Committee (2 members needed) and the Resolutions Committee (3 members needed). If you are able to help with either of these vital tasks, you may have another member nominate you. Please see the Parliamentarian for questions.



I am looking forward to receiving copies of your club's updated By-laws. You may send a digital copy to me at scudderamyl@gmail.com or a printed copy to my address:

Amy Scudder
1540 McDermott Dr.,
Tracy, CA 95376

FAQ from the District Parliamentarian

Q: The question was recently asked when calling for a voice vote: When the president asks members to respond "All in favor say aye"..."All opposed say no..." does the president need to ask for "any who abstain?"

A: According to Robert's Rules of Order 12th edition section 4:35: "The chair does not call for abstentions in taking a vote, since the number of members who respond to such a call is meaningless. To abstain means to not vote at all..."

Send your questions to the Parliamentarian to: Amy Scudder, Mount Diablo District Parliamentarian
scudderamyl@gmail.com

Barbara Chavez – GFWC Mount Diablo President 2012-2014



Barbara installed as GFWC MDD Pres.



Barbara with GFWC MDD 1st VP Kelly Davis



Hospice Tree of Light



Barbara passed August 12 2026. She was a lovely human. She wore many hats: mom, wife, friend, federated member, real estate agent, advocate and so much more. She was civic minded and loved her community of Danville, CA. After serving as GFWC MDD President she was elected as CFWC Financial Secretary and moved up the state finance ladder, serving CFWC a total of 6 years. A few years after her daughter, Robyn, moved to Oregon, they decided to relocate to be near family. She visited her federated sisters of GFWC Mount Diablo District often, helped support and participate in their activities. One of Barbara's passions was serving as Hospice of the East Bay Area Tree of Lights Chairperson. <https://hospiceeastbay.org/community-event/tree-of-lights/>. In 2016, she was presented by then-Danville Mayor Karen Stepper a proclamation for her dedicated service. She traveled from Oregon yearly, supporting Kelly Davis and Orinda Woman's Club's annual fundraiser, "Festival of Trees." After serving CFWC, she got involved with the Happy Valley Women's Club of North Clackamas and the OFWC.



https://oregongfwc.org/uploads/3/4/3/6/34362880/ofwc_newsletter_summer_2025.pdf

Barbara served as club president and also as OFWC 2024-2026 President. She was currently serving as club president and OFWC Treasurer. The OFWC Clubwoman Newsletter Spring 2025 celebrates their hard work led by fun Barbara Chavez. She will be missed!!

<https://oregongfwc.org/gfwc-north-clackamas-womans-club.html>