

GFWC Mount Diablo District (MDD)

BEACON

October 2026

“Be a Beacon of Service for Others”

President's Message

Dear GFWC Mount Diablo District Members,

Fall is almost here—a wonderful season for pumpkin spice lattes, warm tea, and time shared with friends.

Our first GFWC Mount Diablo District meeting was a tremendous success! The Dublin San Ramon Women's Club truly outdid itself with its gracious hospitality.

From the beautiful fresh flowers and delicious lunch to the fantastic guest speaker, every detail made us feel welcome.

It is always inspiring when our clubs come together to exchange ideas, learn from one another, and celebrate the friendships that make our District so special. To the members of the Dublin San Ramon Women's Club, thank you from the bottom of my heart for hosting such a memorable gathering.

Please remember to check our calendar and visit our new website—it looks beautiful! A special thank you to our webmaster, Karina Ramos, for her wonderful work.

Wishing you and your families a happy, fun and safe Halloween!

**- Karen Rickman, President
GFWC Mount Diablo District**



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

(Subject to Change)

2026 GFWC & CFWC & MDD Calendar

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) GFWC Tracy Woman's Club
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...?

In 1868, Jane Cunningham Croly, an accomplished New York newspaper journalist, was denied admittance to a banquet honoring Charles Dickens at the all-male New York Press Club, simply because she was a woman. Outraged, she was determined to organize a club for women.

She did so, and many years later Mrs. Croly, Jennie June, proposed a conference to bring together delegates from 61 women's clubs around the country, initiating the founding of the General Federation of Women's Clubs in 1890.



GFWC has established in her memory the Jennie Award to honor clubwomen for outstanding commitment to club, community, and family. Clubs are encouraged to participate by submitting an application for their nominee to CFWC. Information and the form is available at the CFWC website:

<https://www.cfwc.org/wp-content/uploads/2026-2028-Jennie-Award-Instructions.pdf>

President's Project

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

Since 2004, the American Heart Association's signature women's initiative, Go Red for Women, has met the evolving health needs of women and addressed the awareness and clinical care gaps related to their greatest health threat: cardiovascular disease (CVD).

Cardiovascular disease does not discriminate, and it is not a one-size-fits-all issue. Heart disease and stroke unfairly target women, yet women have been historically left out of research, testing, treatment, and funding. Cardiovascular disease continues to be the No. 1 killer of women - claiming more lives than all forms of cancer combined. Nearly 45% of women over age 20 are living with some form of CVD. Additionally, during key life stages such as adolescence, pregnancy and menopause, females may experience unique events that can increase their risk for heart disease and stroke across their life course.



Source: Go Red for Women www.goredforwomen.org

GFWC TRACY WOMAN'S CLUB

Giving back defines town's longest-serving club

By Amy Scudder

GFWC Tracy Woman's Club

The GFWC Tracy Woman's Club, founded in 1921, is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs and has been serving the Tracy community and area continuously since its founding, making it the oldest service club in Tracy.

General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) is an international organization of approximately 66,000 members from 12 countries. Founded in 1890, the organization seeks to encourage volunteerism, promote education and health initiatives, support survivors of domestic abuse and violence and provide leadership training opportunities to women as they seek to better their communities.

The 102 women who currently belong to the local Tracy Woman's Club organization continue to support the founding principles of the GFWC. They are involved in the community through work, volunteering, community initiatives and community leadership positions. They raise funds to provide scholarship and internship opportunities for local high school students and financial support for 20 local and regional non-profit organizations each year.

Food drives, toy drives, community meals, supporting animal care organizations, providing funds for food distribution, homeless services, child advocacy and domestic violence care groups, veterans, history museum and the arts are among their projects and initiatives.

The membership of the club is made up of a diverse group of women who share a passion for serving their community and bettering their world. Local members also belong to and are involved in the



Courtesy of GFWC Tracy Woman's Club

POPULAR CLUB: The GFWC Tracy Woman's Club, founded in 1921, is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs and is the oldest service club in Tracy, with more than 100 members.

California Federation of Women's Clubs (CFWC) and the GFWC Mount Diablo District Club (MDD) which further provides connection to state and regional activities, conventions and meetings.

Tracy Club members meet once a month on the first Friday of the month, September through May at the Masonic Temple, 1601 N. Tracy Blvd. Meetings include a business meeting, an informative speaker or entertaining presentation by a hometown or regional individual or group and lunch

GFWC Tracy Woman's Club

WHEN: 11 a.m., first Friday of every month

WHERE: Masonic Temple, 1601 N. Tracy Blvd.

DETAILS: GFWC Tracy Woman's Club meets the first Friday of the month. Reservations are required and lunch is included in the price of the reservation.

COST: \$25

INFO: Maggie Forester-Griese 719-331-2002, gfwctracywomensclub@gmail.com or visit <http://tracywomensclub.com>.

catered by a local restaurant.

In addition to the regular monthly meetings, two book clubs and a craft group meet monthly. The organization holds a "meet and greet" lunch a few times during the year where people interested in the group can come and get to know members on an informal basis.

Favorite fund raiser activities include the annual high tea party, holiday dinner, pie sales, shop for a cause, candy sales and the bi-annual

presentation of "Tracy, Our Town USA" play, which highlights local history and events that helped shape our town during its founding and early years.

Membership in Tracy Woman's Club is open to all adults ages 18 and above.

■ For more information about GFWC Tracy Woman's Club visit www.tracywomensclub.com, www.facebook.com/GFWCTracyWomensClub, or www.instagram.com/tracywomensclub.



HONORING HISTORY: Mayor Dan Arriola presented the club with a proclamation for Women's History Month and International Women's Day during the March 3 Tracy City Council meeting.

8 | CELEBRATE TRACY 2026 TRACY PRESS

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209-835-9592
Hablamos Español



I am saddened to share with you that long time Federation Sister Martha Pittore passed away, Monday, September 21, 2026. Martha Pittore was a dedicated, long-time active, community volunteer and resident of San Ramon, California, known for her active involvement with the GFWC California Federation of Women's Clubs as a member of GFWC Dublin/San Ramon Women's Club. She served in many leadership roles, including club president, GFWC Mount Diablo District president and CFWC Area A VP. Martha was a pleasure to know and work with. She was a "wealth of knowledge" and walked the walk. She helped support the annual Holiday Fantasy luncheon, which raises funds for regional food banks, special needs funds, and hospitals. She also participated in community fundraising and local historical projects to benefit the city of San Ramon. She shared in an article 2015 in The Mercury News, "You love what you do, you love the outcome, but doggone it," says Pittore, "it makes you feel good to do something for someone else." Grateful for Martha's guidance and support, she will be greatly missed!!! When arrangements are confirmed we will share that news with you.



SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

Ceremony/Gathering Promptly at 6:50 pm

DUSK - 7:20 pm (PST)

GFWC Woman's Club of Antioch Partnering with DVG

509 G Street; Antioch, CA

Remembering our fallen. Please join us, light a
candle for Gold Star Families on Sunday,
September 27, 2026.

Luminary supplies will be provided.



GFWC WOMAN'S CLUB OF ANTIOCH



BUNCO FUNDRAISER



SATURDAY, October 10, 2026

509 'G' STREET, ANTIOCH, CA



1:00 pm doors open – 1:30 pm games start

\$25.00 donation at the door

Donations support GFWC Woman's Club of Antioch, Lot Project and Local Charities

SNACKS WILL BE SERVED

DOOR PRIZE

FUNDRAISING DRAWING

**PLEASE JOIN US...and INVITE A FRIEND
FOR A FUN FILLED AFTERNOON**

HOSTESSESS: Teresa Hernandez – Cain – Email: yoteresahc@yahoo.com



GFWC MARTINEZ WOMEN'S CLUB

CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO ATTEND OUR

Annual Scholarship Luncheon

BENEFITTING ALHAMBRA HIGH SCHOOL
SCHOLARSHIPS & OTHER EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS



SATURDAY
OCTOBER 17, 2026



11:00am



IBEW HALL, LOCAL 302
1875 ARNOLD DR.
MARTINEZ, CA



\$60 DONATION PER PERSON

CASH ♦ CHECK ♦ DIGITAL PAYMENT



RAFFLE BASKETS



SILENT AUCTION



CASH BASKET



PLEASE RESPOND BY
OCTOBER 4, 2026
martinezwomensclub@gmail.com

SCAN TO PAY WITH VENMO
@Shelly-P-1895 Last 4 digits 4518
"Club Luncheon"



GERMAN DINNER

WOMAN'S CLUB OF LODI

325 W PINE, LODI

OCTOBER 22, 2026

\$25.00 - 4-6 PM



DRIVE THRU ON S. LEE ST

ADVANCED TICKET SALES ONLY

Last day to buy 10/16/26

call for ticket info

MARY LUNA 209-747-3212

MENU

LAKEWOOD FRESH BRATWURST

SAUERKRAUT

MOCK CHEESE BUTTONS

CABBAGE ROLL

CUCUMBER SALAD

KUCHEN

WHOLE KUCHEN AVAILABLE \$15.00

CALL LEANN TO RESERVE YOUR KUCHEN

MUST BE PAID FOR IN ADVANCE

209-712-0306

Calling all Vendors

GFWC Woman's Club of Antioch

Fall Boutique

Business Women giving back to the Community.

October 24, 2026—9:30 AM – 3:30 PM

Handmade Crafters, Vendors & Artists
Shopping, Opportunity Drawings, Fun, Food & Music!!!

LOCATION: GFWC Woman's Club of Antioch 509 "G" Street, Antioch, CA 94509

Vendor Cost is \$35 for a 6ft. Table Space & 2 chairs. If you require electricity the cost is \$40.00. If you would like 2 tables just double the cost \$70 or \$80

Please donate a \$10.00 value gift for our Opportunity Drawing!

Set up time for Vendors: Friday October 23rd 4:30 PM to 6:30 PM

OR - Saturday October 24th 7:30 AM – 9:15 AM.

Doors open to the public at 9:30 AM

Contact Chairperson Liese McCause @ 925-752-6725

This event is a fundraiser for community charities and the restoration of the historic GFWC Woman's Club of Antioch building Lot.

Vendor Application Fall Boutique 10/24/2026

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

Please provide a description of products or services _____

One Table _____ Two Tables _____

MAIL WITH CHECK OR MONEY ORDER TO:

GFWC Woman's Club of Antioch: P.O. Box 1422, Antioch, CA 94509

Fall Boutique

GFWC Woman's Club of Antioch

Free Admission



Business Women giving back to the Community.

Saturday October 24, 2026 9:30 AM – 3:30 PM

Vendors, Artists & Handmade Crafters

Something for all Seasons, Shop Small Businesses!

Music, Shopping, Opportunity Drawings, Fun & Food!!!

LOCATION: GFWC Woman's Club of Antioch Clubhouse
509 "G" Street, Antioch, CA 94509 OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Contact Chairpersons Liese McCause @ 925-752-6725

This event is a fundraiser for community charities and the restoration of the historic GFWC Woman's Club of Antioch Building & New Lot.

Dublin / San Ramon Women's Club Crab Feed and Auction

January 30, 2027 • 5 pm to 9 pm

Shannon Community Center

11600 Shannon Avenue, Dublin, CA 94568

**All-you-can-eat crab, pasta, green salad,
bread and dessert**

Silent, Live, and Dessert Auctions

Games and Tasty Libations!



Funds Raised Will Support New Day For Children and Agape Foster Family Agency

Tickets are \$90
Children 6 to 12 are \$45

No tickets sold at the door

\$15.00 Corkage Fee • No Open Flames

Register Here



BELMONT Village
SENIOR LIVING
SAN RAMON

ER Bishop Ranch

District 2 Supervisor
Candace Andersen
Contra Costa County

CFA CALIFORNIA
FINANCIAL
ADVISORS

HW
DR. HIRAM WOLFBITSKI

SAFeway

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Save the Date: May 14-16, 2027

Event: CFWC State Convention

Venue: Doubletree Hilton

Location: Mission Valley San Diego



Please join us this coming May 2027 and Catch the Waves of Federation