San Gabriel Valley District Women's Club

The KEY • February 2026

SGVD KEY EDITOR: Janice Zolnekoff | Whittier WC | jzolnekoff@gmail.com | 562-556-4000

President



Gina Morales • El Monte Women's Club • emwc.ginamorales@gmail.com

February invites us to pause and remember the quiet power that lives at the center of our Federation work: the heart. A Clubwoman of Heart leads not through titles or tasks, but through the warmth she brings into every room, every conversation, every act of service. She understands that compassion is not a soft skill — it is a transformative one.

A Clubwoman of Heart listens with intention. She notices when someone needs encouragement, when a member feels unsure, or when a new face is searching for a place to belong. She offers kindness without being asked, and she gives grace freely, knowing that we are all navigating life's complexities while trying to serve our communities with purpose.

This month, I invite each of us to lean into the heart-work that often goes unseen. The handwritten note. The supportive phone call. The gentle reminder that someone's efforts matter. These small gestures are the threads that strengthen our sisterhood and keep our clubs vibrant.

And while we honor one extraordinary act of kindness each year through our Kindness Angel Award, the truth is that every Clubwoman carries that same light within her. Kindness is not reserved for a single moment or a single honoree — it lives in each of us, waiting to be chosen, expressed, and shared. When we lead with heart, we become everyday angels for one another, strengthening the bonds that make our Federation a family.

Let us celebrate the women who lead with empathy, who uplift others with sincerity, and who remind us that service is, at its core, an act of love. May we each carry that spirit forward — not just in February, but throughout the year.

Don't Forget to bring to the February13th meeting:



- *Reservations for Kindness Angel Luncheon Feb 21 ($50)*
- *Reservations for March Council Luncheon Mar 13 ($25)*
- *A first timer!*
- *An updated Club Officer's list if not yet turned in…*

2026-2028 NOMINEES FOR THE SAN GABRIEL VALLEY DISTRICT

Nominations from the floor at Spring Council shall be limited to nominees qualifying under the sections listed in the bylaws. (Article XII, Section 7)

President: Denise Jackman
1st VP/Dean: Yvette Romo
2nd VP/Membership: Martha Rodriguez
3rd VP/Convention: Lupe Diaz

Recording Secretary: Cruz Baca
Financial Secretary: Shari Kovach
Treasurer: Rosette Clippinger

Join the GFWC Member Portal

- Gain access to the GFWC Digital Library Resources, connect with fellow club members, view photo galleries, and so much more!
- Create an Account or Login

1st VP Dean of Chairwomen

Denise Jackman • Rowland Hts WC • denisejackman4@gmail.com

Zoom Meeting for 1st Vice Presidents: Wednesday February 4, 2026
Meeting ID: 884 1414 0741
Passcode: 387499

Well, I know a lot of 1st Vice Presidents are relaxing now - since our report writing season is over! You all do an amazing job creating reports, calculating numbers, and making the Clubs shine for all the work you do. I congratulate all our Clubs for the amazing turn out we had for reports!

Our LEADS program through CFWC is coming in February. Martha Rodriguez will make a wonderful representative from SGVD and we send her off with well wishes that she is selected as the CFWC LEADS representative. LEADS seems intimidating, but it is not. The program is such a wonderful experience and candidates can meet past state presidents, past district presidents, and other amazing chairpersons from CFWC to learn from. You get training on how to do fundraisers, parliamentary training, amenities and protocol, all things Federation. It does not make you do anything you do not want to do like become president or anything further, it gives you the opportunity to expand your knowledge and help others with this information. As a former LEADS candidate, the experiences and training I received was exceptional, but because of this group of individuals I trained with, I now have some real friends throughout California and I talk with them all the time. In the fall, we will be looking for another LEADS candidate so watch for those who come to club meetings and suggest this as an opportunity for someone to learn more about Federation.

Convention is coming! The Convention Crew has been diligently seeking a venue that will not break the bank and can accommodate the two days convention that we are planning. The planning has started to make it a memorable opportunity to be recognized by your District, show your spirit and have opportunities to hear speakers, education and have an amazing time. Most of the location selections are here in San Gabriel Valley and the Inland Empire and we think you will be pleased. Registration information will be available on February 13, when you vote on the location. Be sure to invite your members to the February 13th district meeting!
Love in Federation, Denise

New Project Coming! District wants to help clubs with their projects! Starting in January, we will be collecting the following items at every meeting: •Can Pull Tabs •Pill Bottles •Shoes •Eyeglasses •Wine Corks •used Towels and blankets •Coats •Socks and •underwear for children. Contact Denise Jackman if there is something specific that you want to start collecting!

How it works: Some clubs (not all) collect these items for specific projects they work on. Other clubs do not but can save for those who do. Each meeting those who would like to donate these items will bring them each month and place them into the boxes designated for each item. At the end of the meeting, we will draw a name from the clubs who want the items for their club projects. The winner will take the items for their projects that day. Clubs must attend the meeting to participate in the drawing. Let's start collecting and help our clubs with their projects!

2nd VP – Membership

Terri Cardenas • terri.cardenas48@gmail.com

2nd VP Membership Zoom Meeting – February 10, 2026 7:00 PM

Meeting ID: 818 0755 5131

Passcode: 728356

COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC POLICY

This year, we have been working diligently to improve communication with our members by introducing Constant Contact as our official communication platform. This system allows us to securely store member email addresses while keeping them private. Only the Communications Chair and the President have access to this information.

Constant Contact also gives members the ability to unsubscribe at any time, and all messages are sent using blind copy, ensuring that your email address is never shared accidentally. For your safety, please note that all official District communications will come exclusively through Constant Contact, not from an individual officer's personal email address.

Recently, there have been several scam attempts involving emails that appear to come from officers and request gift cards or donations. Please be assured that District officers will never request donations or gift cards through personal email accounts. If a message does not come through Constant Contact, it should be treated with caution.

When members sign up for District membership, we ask that you encourage them to provide an email address where they are comfortable receiving newsletters and updates. This allows us to share timely information about events, important issues, and special meetings—and helps keep everyone informed and protected.

We appreciate your support as we make this transition. Please know that we will never sell or share your email address with anyone outside of our organization. Your information will only be used to support clear, secure, and effective communication with our members.

relationship is not just about managing money—it is about stewardship, collaboration, and leadership. By working together, these two officers set the tone for financial integrity and help ensure the long-term success of our clubs throughout the San Gabriel Valley District. – Shari Kovach (Treasurer) and Yvette Romo (Financial Secretary

If you need assistance with treasurer-related tasks or have financial questions, please email Shari at sskovach99@gmail.com. I am always happy to help.

Parliamentarian

Cruz Baca • Baldwin Park WC • cruzsembello@hotmail.com

Hello! Members, I am happy to say that it seems we are finally making headway on "By Laws" changes. We took into consideration your ideas and input and have been able to whittle down the 42 pages we had first discussed, to 12 pages; these pages/changes we read at our January 9, 2026 (Birthday Council) meeting and as promised, we have posted on our SGVD website. March 13, 2026 (Spring Council) meeting, will be the 2nd reading. I believe we have answered your many questions and concerns. Please contact me if any questions.

Thank you, In Sisterhood, Cruz Baca, Parliamentarian

Corresponding Secretary

Rosette Clippinger • DBWC • dbrosette@aol.com

Thanks so much for turning in your club officer's list, etc. If you have any updates or changes please email the information to Rosette Clippinger at dbrosette@aol.com

Please provide *6 copies* of your yearbook at the District meeting. We need these so that we can provide them to your district officers.

Recording Secretary

Nancy Krueger • Pio Pico WC • Recordingsecretarysgvd24@gmail.com



Financial Team

Shari Kovach•Treasurer•skkovach99@gmail.com & Yvette Romo•Financial Secretary•ymromo4@gmail.com

The President–Treasurer Partnership: The Backbone of Sound Club Finances

One of the strongest indicators of a healthy nonprofit organization is a positive, well-defined working relationship between the President and Treasurer. In our clubs, where officers serve as dedicated volunteers, this partnership is especially important for maintaining transparency, trust, and confidence among members.

The Treasurer is the steward of the club's finances, responsible for accurate recordkeeping, reporting, and safeguarding funds. The President provides leadership, oversight, and authorization, ensuring that financial decisions align with the club's mission, bylaws, and approved budget. When these roles work in harmony—rather than in isolation—everyone benefits.

Clear communication is the foundation of this relationship. Regular check-ins between the President and Treasurer help avoid surprises, address concerns early, and ensure that both officers are prepared for board and membership meetings. Reviewing the Treasurer's report together before meetings allows the President to support the Treasurer and confidently respond to questions.

Equally important are clear boundaries and safeguards. No single officer should handle every step of a financial transaction. Requiring approvals, documentation, and shared oversight protects not only the club, but also the officers who serve it. These practices build credibility and reassure members that club funds are being managed responsibly.

Challenges will arise—missing receipts, budget questions, or unexpected expenses—but when the President and Treasurer approach these situations as a team, solutions come more easily. Addressing issues calmly, documenting decisions, and following bylaws reinforces a culture of accountability and respect. In short, the President–Treasurer

FUNDRAISING

Kindness Angel Luncheon is around the corner on February 21. We are planning a very special event for your Kindness Angel. We are providing a lunch, having a "CROONER" (noun -A singer of popular ballads) and it will take place in the Grace T. Black Auditorium. We will have presentations of certificates to each Kindness Angel and they will be treated special. We hope you will invite your Kindness Angel's family to attend to help celebrate them too. Ticket sale deadline is on February 13 at the board meeting. See flyer below for more details!

GFWC-San Gabriel Valley of Women's Clubs

2025 KINDNESS ANGEL OF THE YEAR

In recognition of National Random Acts of Kindness Week, each Club is invited to select one member who has demonstrated a noteworthy **Random Act of Kindness**.

The selected member will be honored at the **San Gabriel Valley District 2025 Kindness Angel of the Year Ceremony**, to be held on **Saturday, February 21, 2026**. Each Club is requested to submit the name of one member whose act of kindness has made a meaningful impact on another member and/or the community.

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*Participants must have been a member of an SGVD Women's Club for at least one year.

*The Random Act of Kindness should have occurred **January 2025-December 2025**.

*Only one (1) Kindness Angel per club will be honored.

*If a member has multiple SGVD club memberships, only one club can submit A Kindness Angel narrative for that member.

*Members cannot nominate themselves.

*Club Presidents are asked to sign the narratives.

*The narrative of the Kindness Angel **SHOULD BE TYPED** on 8 ½ by 11 papers in font size 12 or larger. Describe in 50 words or less the member's random act of kindness. A random act of kindness could be taking a member/friend to a meeting or doctor appointment, bringing a meal to a sick member/friend, etc. Do not include information related to a number of years in club, how long they have been married, how many children or grandchildren they have. Do not include any club activities or chairpersonships they have held.

*Two (2) copies of your Angel's narrative are due by **Sunday, February 1, 2026**, to *Victoria Burl* by the deadline (No Exceptions). DO NOT INCLUDE A PICTURE OF YOUR KINDNESS ANGEL WITH YOUR NARRATIVE.

*All Kindness Angels are requested to attend the SGVD Kindness Angel Ceremony, where they will receive special recognition. Your club may wish to honor your Kindness Angel with a corsage or bouquet of flowers. You may also consider having your "Angel" as your guest for lunch.

KINDNESS ANGEL OF THE YEAR CHAIRPERSON: Victoria P. Burl
MAIL TO: 16373 Oak Leaf Lane, Fontana, CA 92336
EMAIL: PrincessVky3@aol.com
CELL PHONE: (626) 755-0373

San Gabriel Valley District Presents:

Kindness Angel Luncheon

"Angels Plant the Seeds of Kindness"

TICKETS: $50.00

Celebrate your Kindness Angel with Lunch and recognition

February 21, 2026

11:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Grace T. Black Auditorium
3130 Tyler Ave.
El Monte

Entertainment by: "Crooner Dan Olivo"

"Kindness Angels Are Special Flowers from the SGVD Garden"

Contact Yvette Romo -SGVD Fundraising Chair
(626)253-7446

SEND PAYMENT ON OR BEFORE FEB 13, 2026 TO:
1142 SO. DIAMOND BAR BLVD. #861 DIAMOND BAR, CA 91765

San Gabriel Valley District
Fall Fundraiser
"Kindness Angel Luncheon"

Club Presidents:

Our Annual Spring Fundraiser is Saturday, February 21, 2026, from 11:00 am to 2:00pm. Grace Black Auditorium- 3130 Tyler St. El Monte, CA. 91731.

Please help support this Annual District event. Tickets are $50 per person. Each club is asked to support by a donation of : a gift or basket worth $25 and a gift card worth $25 for a total of $50. This donation can be dropped off at the SGVD general meetings in January or February.

Checklist: Please make sure you check off all the boxes before sending your form in

- ☐ Make sure check is made out to San Gabriel Valley District- please send to 1142 S. Diamond Bar Blvd P.O. Box #861 Diamond Bar, CA. 91765
- ☐ Turn in your check with your form. List the names of members attending
- ☐ Highlight your Kindness Angel
- ☐ Donate $50 gift basket and gift card
- ☐ Deadline to purchase tickets is February 13, 2026, or bring to SGVD General Meeting 02/13/2026
- ☐ Any questions please contact Fundraising Chairman, Yvette Romo (626) 253-7446

Club Name:

Name of Person Attending
***Kindness Angel Name:**

Payment		
Total # Attending	**Check #**	**Amount**

March 13, 2026 Spring Council Luncheon

RSVP due March 6, 2026

Contact Bonnie Duenas to make a Lunch Reservation **by 3/6/26** RBLMB@msn.com (626) 827-4273

GFWC CALIFORNIA

San Gabriel Valley District

Spring Council Registration Form
March 13, 2026 - Grace T. Black Auditorium

Club Name: _____ Contact Person: _____

Please list names of attending members/guests.
Make checks payable to: San Gabriel Valley District.
Mail registration form, along with club check to:
ATTN Spring Council/Bonnie Duenas
1142 So. Diamond Bar Blvd #861 Diamond Bar, CA 91765
Lunch Ticket Cost $25.00

1. _____ Cost _____
2. _____ Cost _____
3. _____ Cost _____
4. _____ Cost _____
5. _____ Cost _____
6. _____ Cost _____
7. _____ Cost _____
8. _____ Cost _____
9. _____ Cost _____
10. _____ Cost _____

Total payment amount: _____ $ _____

REGISTRATION DUE BY March 6, 2026

Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness Team Leader

San Gabriel Valley District is looking for a Team Leader for our Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness Team. Please contact President Gina Morales at emwc.ginamorales@gmail.com or 1st VP Denise Jackman at denisejackman4@gmail.com if you are interested.

Environmental Team Leader

Floretta Sheppard • Whittier WC •

It is always sad to see areas where heavy rainfall has done damage from flooding and soil erosion. Yet many positives occur. We live in a desert! Whittier's average rainfall is only 13.42 inches. But annual rainfall is very variable. In the 2024/25 season, Whittier got only 6.62"; in 23/24, 24.92"; in 22/23, 25.38" and in 2006/07, 3.05". These variations in rainfall occur State-wide. The average rainfall for November and December is 3.62 inches; this year it was 11.23 inches.

The recent increased rainfall supports plant growth and supports woodland and forest habitats. It also provides water for our reservoirs and ground-water recharging fields (like the San Gabriel River). Rain in the mountains is collected as snow and melts in the Spring to provide 30% of the State's water needs. State-wide, currently we are at only 39% of average annual snowpack.

We need a significant water supply for agriculture. About 40% of all water used is for agriculture. And 80% of all developed water infrastructure is for agriculture. And there are always shortages of water in the Central Valley. We need more reservoirs, recharging fields, recycling plants, salt water conversion and other processes to reduce the impact of variation in annual rainfall.

Fortunately, we are not under any strenuous water restrictions, so, if you are inclined to plant vegetables at this time, plant kale, spinach, lettuce, carrots, beets, onions and radishes.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2/13/26	SGVD District Mtg 9:30am – Registration for District Fashion Show due; Registration form and payment due for March Spring Council Lunch El Monte Community Ctr, Grace Black Auditorium 3130 Tyler Av, El Monte
2/26-28/26	CFWC February State Ex Board Committee at Delta Hotel Santa Clara Silicon Valley, 2151 Laurelwood Road, Santa Clara, CA 95054
3/13/26	SGVD District *SPRING COUNCIL* Mtg 9:30am – **MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM, Raffle Baskets Due for CONVENTION, SGVD Convention Registration Due, ELECTION OF 2026-2028 DISTRICT OFFICERS.** El Monte Community Ctr, Grace Black Auditorium, 3130 Tyler Av, El Monte
4/24-25/26	**SGVD–70TH Annual Convention – Location TBA.**
5/8/26	SGVD District Mtg 9:30am – El Monte Community Ctr, Grace Black Auditorium, 3130 Tyler Av, El Monte
May 2026	**CFWC Convention - Location TBA.**
6/12/26	SGVD District Mtg – El Monte Community Ctr, Grace Black Auditorium, 3130 Tyler Av, El Monte
6/26-29/26	**GFWC Convention** – Scottsdale, Arizona

Epsilon Sigma Omicron ESO Team Leader

Maria Kramer • Rowland Heights WC • aznaran52@yahoo.com

Just a quick note to remind all of you of the newly formed ESO Committee for the SGVD. Most of the information about ESO (Epsilon Sigma Omicron) is on the CFWC.org website under the ESO tab. I am new to this committee, but I like the idea of reading, working with our communities to promote reading and with all of your assistance we can make this happen. Our committee will bring to our upcoming January meeting some forms, brochures and bookmarks and we will also bring a few books to start exchanging (if you want) books. Also, you could fill out a fillable application online and just send me an email (aznaran52@yahoo.com) that you have become a member. Maria Kramer 562-448-4172

Education and Libraries Team Leader

Karen Campbell • Walnut Valley WC • yotcrew@gmail.com

FEBRUARY 13, 2026 – Please plan to attend! Tell your fellow Sisters!

I'm very please to let you know that we have a Guest Speaker arranged for the SGVD Monthly meeting on Friday, February 13. MARIE ROGERS began her teaching career in Los Angeles public schools, offer classes in Spanish, French, and English as a Second Language. After earning an MFA at Otis School of Art and Design, Ms. Rogers also specialized in Creative Writing. Ms. Rogers has built a successful career as a Studio Teacher. She has experience working on network television, feature films, photo shoots, music videos, voiceovers, live performances. Currently, she is working on independent films, award shows and other live performances; venues include, but not limited to, Hollywood Bowl, Pasadena Playhouse, and Kirk Douglas Theater, Walt Disney Concert Hall, Redcat Theatre, Ahmanson Theatre, Mark Taper Forum, and the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion. Ms. Rogers is Lead Studio Teacher at L.A. Opera for 36 years. Additionally, Marie Rogers has an extensive background in sailing, sailboat racing, coaching, mentoring, administration, and so much more.

2026 FUTURE PROJECT – IN THE PLANNING STAGE

Please let me know if you have any Pet Projects in your area for Education and/or your Libraries!

Leadership

Nancy Krueger • Pio Pico Women's Club • recordingsecretarysgvd24@gmail.com

Days of the week in Federation:

- **Monday motivation**-Federation itself is the heart of motivation with each action step forward that is made with a positive attitude. Leadership is believing.
- **Tuesday teamwork**-you are not alone with all the Board, the committees and the membership being just a communication away. Leadership listens.
- **Wednesday walking**-walk side by side and lift up a fallen member. Leadership uses both hands.
- **Thursday thankfulness**-thank the teams, thank the chairman, thank other leaders, thank your family at each opportunity. Leadership acknowledges.
- **Friday facets**-solving issues may take time and proceeds in baby steps. Leadership figures it out.
- **Saturday serving**-be the example of unselfishness as leadership is a honorable, responsible position. Leadership is humble.
- **Sunday strength**-Federation is an organization for leadership action. Leadership leads beneficial changes together.

Legislation and Public Policy Team Leader

Linda Arizaga • La Puente Valley WC • Kleendah@yahoo.com

Urge Congress to pass the PREEMIE Reauthorization Act (H.R. 1197, S. 1562) and the Preventing Maternal Deaths Reauthorization Act (H.R. 1909, S. 2621) to reduce preterm births and reduce maternal mortality and morbidity!

GFWC joined our affiliate organization, March of Dimes, and 250 other organizations in signing a letter to urge Congress to enact the PREEMIE Reauthorization Act and the Preventing Maternal Deaths Reauthorization Act, which reauthorize programs at the CDC to reduce preterm births and reduce maternal mortality and morbidity. This effort brings together a coalition of subject-matter experts and grassroots support, including representatives from obstetrics and gynecology, community-based organizations, including GFWC, patient advocacy groups, mental and behavioral health, forensic pathology, midwifery, nursing, maternal-fetal medicine, and public health.

The U.S. has one of the highest maternal mortality and morbidity rates in the developed world. Annually, more than 30,000 women experience life-threatening complications during labor and delivery.
GFWC urges Congress to enact the bipartisan PREEMIE Reauthorization Act to expand research, education, and intervention strategies related to preterm birth, and the Preventing Maternal Deaths Reauthorization Act to preserve the lives and health of mothers during pregnancy, childbirth, and the postpartum period.

GFWC Website – Sign up for legislative updates to your mailbox at: https://www.gfwc.org/legislative-action/

Health & Wellness Team Leader

Tina LaCarra • Whittier WC • lacarrads@aol.com

Happy Healthy Valentine's month to you and your loved ones.

As I write this article, I hope your heart is in a content, peaceful and happy spot. February is full of hope! Valentine's Day to show your loved ones how much you appreciate them. Spoil them with cards, gifts and of course telling them you love them. Tell your spouse, your family, pets, friends and neighbors, you love them. Our world could use more l o v e!

February is full of hope! February is American Heart Month, a time when all people—especially women—are encouraged to focus on cardiovascular health. February 6th is Go Red for Women. A National Wear Red Day to raise awareness that heart disease is the #1 killer of women. For women, heart attack symptoms can differ from the "classic" chest pain, often including fatigue, shortness of breath, nausea, or jaw/back pain. These symptoms often lead to being misdiagnosed.

Having a heart-healthy lifestyle is key. Eating heart-healthy food, exercise and stress management are key. Heart healthy food includes veggies, fruits and whole grains. Choose lean proteins and limit salty foods. Watch your portion sizes. Try to avoid processed meats (like bacon, sausage), sodas, fried foods. Use an air fryer for those french fries! It helps but remember the portion size. Moderation and portion control are key!
I have written this every month. Walking is a great form of exercise to maintain a healthy weight and manage stress. Movement of any kind... dancing, chair exercise, gardening all help lower your stress. Plus, if you take your dog, you help with their heart. Is that just a perfect way to say I Love You?

To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We are seeking members of committees for our District. Let us know your passion and let's match it with something you enjoy!

Hospitality Team: Do you love decorating or coming up with a theme for our district meetings? Join this team to help set up our district meetings on the second Friday of each month. You need to arrive at 8:00 am. Tablecloths, center pieces, coffee, amenities all need to be placed. If you are interested in this position, join us at 8 am on Friday February 13!

Fun Time Team: Love coming up with fun ideas? We would like to explore the idea of trips, tours, fun activities to do as a district and maybe with other districts. Join this Team for brainstorming ideas! If you are interested in this team, please contact Denise Jackman at DeniseJackman4@gmail.com .

Get Connected. Get Inspired. Get Involved.

We encourage you to invite your club chairs to join their corresponding District Teams! These teams are designed to connect leaders, spark fresh ideas, and build strong support networks across the District.

- Membership Club Chairs are encouraged to join the District Membership Team
- 1st Vice Presidents are invited to collaborate with the District 1st Vice President Team.

By participating, chairs gain the opportunity to learn from one another, collaborate on shared goals, hear from engaging speakers, and exchange creative ideas and successful projects. It's a space where innovation thrives and support is always available.

This opportunity is open to all club chairpersons, and we strongly encourage participation. Being part of a District Team creates an incredible support system, strengthens leadership skills, and—most importantly—helps grow enthusiasm and participation across our clubs.

Together, we're better. Let's connect and make great things happen! ✨

BIRTHDAYS, CARE AND CONCERN

Mavis Hansen • El Monte WC • 626-441-6231 • newmavis08@outlook.com

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

The beautiful Amethyst is the birthstone for those born in February. A variety of quartz that is a spectacular purple color that ranges from a blend of deep violet to a lighter lilac hue. The Amethyst is thought to provide the wearer with stability, peace, courage, focus, royalty and romance. The perfect gift to express love and affection.

The Birthday Flowers for February are the Violet and Primrose. The Violet is a symbol of Watchfulness, Loyalty and Faithfulness. The Primrose lets someone know you cannot live without them. February Birthdays are either Aquarius or Pisces

AQUARIUS: January 20 - February 18 are known for adaptability with a unique style, great personality, charming and charismatic. Powerful, self-disciplined and goal directed. Aquarius love to meet new people and new situations. Adding novelty and variety to the daily routine and obligations will renew enthusiasm.

PISCES: February 19 - March 20 are ruled by their feelings. A dreamer, but with determination. Pisces always emphasis camaraderie and teamwork, which brings many friends. Always avoiding those who are upsetting or have negative thoughts. They follow their intuition and also welcome change. Special days in February are: Groundhog day on the 2nd, Valentine's Day the 14th, President's Day the 16th, Ramadan and the Lunar new Year the 17th and Ash Wednesday, the 18th . February is the shortest day of the year with only 28 days, except every fourth year the 29th is added and known as LEAP YEAR!!G

AQUARIUS OR PISCES HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!



LEADS Team Leader

Nancy Krueger • Pio Pico Women's Club • recordingsecretarysgvd24@gmail.com

LEADS
CANDIDATE
SGVD



January 15, 2026

Martha Rodriguez
La Puente Valley Woman's Club, Ca.

620 N. Stimson Ave
La Puente, Ca. 91744

Dear Vicki Holden and CFWC,

I Was born 9-22-1962 to a single mother who worked as a seamstress in Los Angeles. I was raised by my grandmother and grandfather with my 1 brother, two aunts and two uncles in La Puente. I graduated early in 1979, but I am class of 1980. I went to work right after to help support. I had to learn to drive at 13 and was taught by my mother who did not drive, nor did my grandparents or aunts, so I took them everywhere they needed to go. I was already getting sense of responsibilities. I then married at 19, had my two children and by 1984 I was divorced and fending for me and my children as my mother did plus I had to start all over with nothing. I was involved with my children's academics and activities while I worked two jobs. I learned how to drive the forklift and after I decided that I was going to be a truck driver. I went to truck driving school and then started working for the Los Angeles County Sheriff department. I was the first woman driver for the county. I was responsible for inmates as well as the fleet, but as time progressed I continued to progress in my position. I was now doing payroll scheduling and maintenance on the county fleet while still participating in my children's academy and activities. In 2008, I had lost both of my grandparents, my only brother and my estranged father. I continued working but my mother's health started to decline so I ended up retiring in 2016 to care for my mother. During this time, my third child, a son, had passed in 2017 and in 2021, my mother passed from covid. I was seriously depressed, so my daughter said to go find something to do, so I went to an event at the La Puente Valley Woman's Club and joined on the spot. My daughter said that you have to go to the meeting and get involved, so I did and this club turned my life around. I was so busy, I didn't have time to be sad or depressed. I became the fundraiser chair, to the treasurer, to the president. I am proud of the Federation and what is stands for to this day. We have evolved to greatness, and assisted the cities, the community and the San Gabriel Valley District and ready to do it again.

In Federation,

Martha L. Rodriguez

ATTN MEMBERS: Any flyers that are being promoted by SGVD on our Website SGVD.org, The Key, or Social Media **MUST** have the District and State logo on it. The logos can be found on CFWC website and below. IF you are reading this newsletter electronically, you can also "right click" on the images below and copy them on to your device to be used. I have also included the GFWC logo and the CFWC /GFWC logo combined.

MEETING LOCATION PROPOSALS BEING ACCEPTED!

The 2026-2028 term is rapidly approaching and SGVD wants your input on where meetings are held. If you would like to propose a location for our meetings, we would love to see your ideas. In your proposal, please consider parking, accessibility for disability, restrooms and space for approximately 100 people.

We need table set up and breakdown - 10-12 round tables with 8-10 chairs for each table. We would need 4 rectangles with a podium set up in front for the Executive Committee. We will need 6-8 rectangles set up for raffles, check in and amenities.

We meet once a month, the second Friday for the period of September through June. We need access from 8:00 am to 1:30 pm. A small storage space would be beneficial where we could store coffee and water supplies and tablecloths - this part of the request is not required.

We need access to the space on the Thursday prior to the January and March meetings for our Arts and Photography contests for three hours.

Please submit proposals by Mail to the District 1142 S. Diamond Bar Blvd. #861 Diamond Bar, CA 91765 postmarked no later than February 28, 2026.

Please note: This year we were awarded a County Grant to pay for our rental. However, this grant is not guaranteed. Consider the rental comes out of our budget and Clubs fund our budget. We will seek grants for these funds, but if they are not always guaranteed. Thank you!







BALDWN PARK WOMAN'S CLUB

SPUD BUNCO GAME DAY
Friday, January 30, 2025 11 am to 2 pm $15



Our Spud Bunco features a Baked Potato lunch with toppings galore! We are playing Bunco after lunch for prizes. This event begins AFTER the Dean's Seminar at 10 am. Please join us for both and find out about our club and our mission of community service! Please **RSVP** by January 25th to Suzanne Perez at 626-862-7182 or perezsue@aol.com.



PAINT & SIP Day for the Arts
Friday, February 20, 2026 11 am to 2 pm
$15, lunch only $24, lunch with Paint & Sip

We will be raising funds for the student art program by making some of our own art! You can join us just for lunch or for **lunch and the Paint & Sip.** There will be preprinted canvases, paint, brushes; everything you need to create art of your own. So much fun, don't miss it! Please **RSVP** by February 16th to Vivian Reyes at 626-827-7457 or email at aginuzv@aol.com.

PRESIDENT'S AUCTION Fundraiser

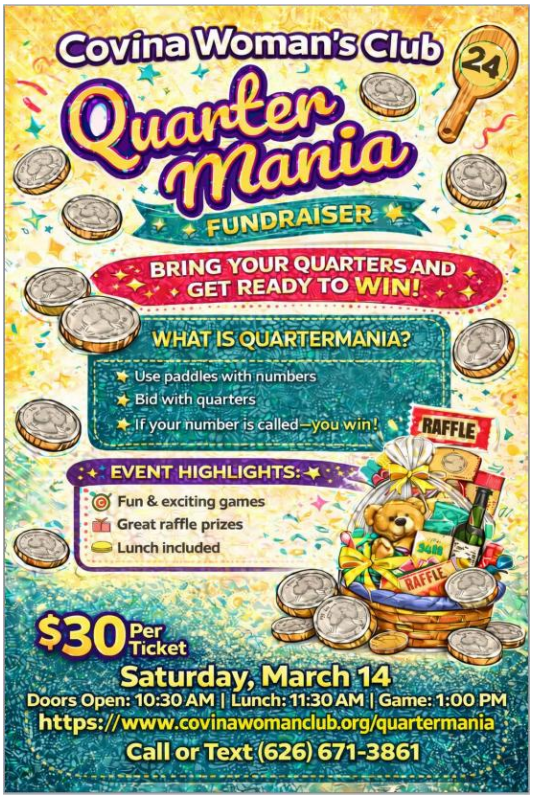


Friday, February 6, 2025
Open Auction $15
Large Items Auction $Winning Bids
10 am to 12:30 pm

Join us for a fun filled meeting that includes our annual President's Auction fundraiser for local charities. It will feature great treasures long hidden away along with newly acquired treasures. **Our auction needs your donations,** please bring to the January 16th or January 30th meetings. Donations can be gift cards you are not sure you'll use or wonderful knick-knacks and collectibles that need a new home. If you need us to pick up your donation, call Diana Asmundson at 626-917-8913. **Lunch is a potluck** so please bring something to share.

Activities are held at the BPWC Clubhouse at 3817 Baldwin Park Blvd in Baldwin Park.









Art by:

SOLES 4 SOULS
Turning shoes and clothing into opportunity

Shoe Drive Donations

Sunday, March 1, 2026
10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
4004 La Crescenta Ave., La Crescenta, CA 91214
Contact: (818) 957-9806 or events@lacrescentawomansclub.org

LA CRESCENTA ESTABLISHED 1911 WOMAN'S CLUB

La Crescenta Woman's Club is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization









REVISED 1-29-26 - Young Musicians Entry Form
is available on our website at
https://www.sgvd.org/resource-page
Entries are due MARCH 1, 2026
Contact Martha Rodriguez, La Puente Valley Woman's Club
626-512-1241 | Email: **LPVWC@YAHOO.COM**

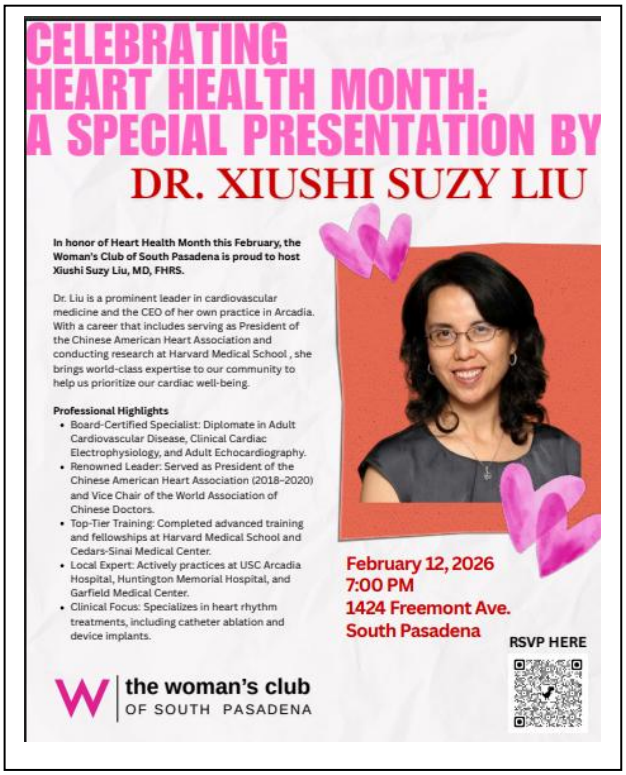




Have you read the proposed Bylaw changes? They are posted on our website home page

https://www.sgvd.org/





CLUB NEWS…



THE AZUSA WOMAN'S CLUB – 125 YEARS OF LEGACY

by Suzanne Scheideker Cook, Chairperson, Ways and Means

On January 18, 2026, the Azusa Woman's Club (AWC) celebrated its 125th anniversary with a birthday bash at the historic AWC Clubhouse with complimentary wine, hors d'oeuvres, and a dessert buffet which included commemorative cookies decorated with the AWC's seal. Entertainment was provided by Julia Jean and Company, a 7-piece jazz and rhythms and blues band. The room was decorated in AWC's colors of blue and yellow with bouquets of yellow roses on the tables. Against the walls were memorabilia such as yearbooks, photographs, receipt books, and a sterling silver tea service dating as far back as 1915.

Diana Reyes Williams, President, AWC, started the program by giving the welcoming remarks. Ms. Williams included facts and figures about both the AWC and the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC). For instance, GFWC members often exceed the average for volunteer hours. In 2024, GFWC members worldwide completed over 5 million volunteer hours. AWC's members average 8 volunteer hours per month which totals 2,880 hours annually. This is the equivalent to over $100,000 given back in service to the community each year.

The program also featured Debi Gutierrez, comedienne and AWC Club member. Debi asked the audience to become time travelers with her as she traveled back in time to 1901 and then traveled forward through the decades highlighting the accomplishments and progress of women. Following this presentation, Yvonne Rosas Petty did a presentation of the evolution of women. Ms. Rosas Petty is the First Vice-President of the AWC.

The Mayor of Azusa and the Councilmembers presented the AWC with a certificate in recognition of AWC's milestone. It was followed by a presentation by State Senator Susan Rubio with a joint certificate from her office and Assemblymember Rubio's office. Congressmember Cisneros and Los Angeles County Supervisor Solis also gave certificates of recognition to the AWC. In Senator Rubio's speech, she said that she had been asked what women's clubs do. Her answer was that the members of women's clubs are the unsung heroes of the community. The AWC and the other women's clubs raise money for scholarships, local food banks, domestic abuse shelters, homeless shelters, literacy programs, and environmental programs.

The closing remarks were provided by Jeffrey Cornejo, Jr., who is City Clerk for Azusa. Jeffrey is also a lifetime honorary member of the AWC. Jeffrey shared that the majestic palm trees that line Azusa Avenue going up to the Azusa Canyon were planted by the AWC members in 1907. He also talked about how the AWC was the second oldest women's club in the San Gabriel Valley and one of the oldest in California. He concluded his remarks by saying that he was honored to be part of the AWC because "our members know that by volunteering, we have the power to change lives and give others hope." AWC's event celebrating its 125 th anniversary truly honored the past and looks towards inspiring the future.





Return to Key Editor:

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED - TIMELY MAIL PLEASE RUSH



CONTACT INFORMATION

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Proud Member California Federation of Women's Clubs and General Federation of Women's Clubs

Mailing Address: SGVD • 1142 South Diamond Bar Blvd. #861 • Diamond Bar, Ca 91765

WWW.SGVD.ORG

WWW.CFWC.ORG

WWW.GFWC.ORG

Facebook Group— GFWC-San Gabriel Valley District

Special Note: For US Mail Subscriptions *September 2025 to June 2026*, please provide:

● list of names ● addresses and ● club check ($15 each) made out to:

***SAN GABRIEL VALLEY DISTRICT (SGVD)* and mail to KEY Editor:**

Janice Zolnekoff • 1142 South Diamond Bar Blvd. #861 • Diamond Bar, Ca 91765