San Gabriel Valley District Women's Club

The KEY • May 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

President's Zoom Meeting – 3rd Wed of the month - May 20, 2026 7:00 PM

Meeting ID: 851 3733 2301

Passcode: 477288

Club Member of May: The Member Who Continues the Journey

As I close out my final Key article as President, I find myself reflecting on what it truly means to be a member of this organization — not just for a term, not just for a project, but as a way of showing up for community, service, and one another.

A Club Member of May is someone who continues the journey.
They support the new administration with confidence and generosity, knowing that leadership grows stronger when we lift each other. They visit other club meetings and events, because connection across our Federation keeps us informed, inspired, and united.

They follow procedure and protocol — not because it is rigid, but because it gives us structure, fairness, and clarity. When you do it right, you can't be wrong.

They attend District meetings, encourage fellow members to learn more about the organization they are part of, and take pride in understanding the larger Federation that connects us all. They step into CFWC meetings, workshops, and trainings, knowing that lifelong learning is one of the greatest gifts we can give ourselves.

They document our story — taking photos, sharing on social media, and showing our community who GFWC is and what we stand for. Visibility matters. Pride matters.

They wear their club colors boldly. They recruit active members intentionally. They retain active members by recognizing them. They encourage leadership growth at every level. They nurture friendships within this wonderful organization. They speak positivity into reality and live the spirit of the Collect — not alone, but as part of something larger, something meaningful, something lasting.

And as I step out of this role, I want to say this from the deepest place of gratitude:

It has truly been my privilege to serve as your 2024–2026 SGVD President. This role has shaped me, inspired me, and deepened my love for this Federation — and I will continue to stand beside our members as we move forward.
And above all, remember:
WE ARE GFWC.

CFWC NEWS

On behalf of CFWC President Sonya Matthies, it is with a heavy heart that I announce the resignation of our First Vice President/President Elect, Wendy Curran, effective April 13, 2026. Due to present family health issues requiring her full attention, Wendy has made the difficult decision to step down from her duties. We are incredibly grateful for her dedication to the Federation and her service to our communities. Please join me in keeping Wendy and her husband in our thoughts and prayers during this challenging time. Yours in Friendship and Love, Sonya

Update 4-28-26: It is with a heavy heart and profound sadness that I share some very difficult news. We have learned of the passing of Kenneth Curran, the beloved husband of our dear Wendy Curran.
We will share details regarding memorial arrangements as soon as they are provided by the family. In the meantime, if you would like to send cards or messages of condolence, they would be greatly appreciated.
Out of respect for Wendy's privacy during this difficult time, we kindly ask that there be no phone calls.
Sonya Matthies, CFWC President

Don't Forget to bring to the May 8th District Meeting

- *A first timer!*
- *A list of club members' emails so we can add them to the Constant Contact email list*
- *An updated 2026-2027 Club Contact Information*

1st VP Dean of Chairwomen

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

NO ZOOM MEETING THIS MONTH for 1st Vice Presidents

~~**1st Wed of the month - Wednesday May 6, 2026** Meeting ID: 884 1414 0741 Passcode: 387499~~

Wow! What a term as your 1st Vice President! I am so honored to have been your 1st Vice President for the 2024-2026 term. I appreciate all of your support and the hard work you have done for our District.

We have worked on reports, made some changes, trained and learned along the way. We figured out what works and what doesn't. We have worked together on Bylaw changes, projects and we have our first Code of Conduct for our meetings. CFWC doesn't even have one of those!

What kept me inspired throughout this term was your unwavering dedication to the District. Your Clubs participated, you worked, you attended meetings, events and your clubs came through for the kids with CHiPs. You donated baskets, sneakers, pill bottles, soda can tabs, plastic containers and glasses to be given to other clubs for their projects and furthered our Environmental projects. You and your clubs were amazing!

In the last year, I have attended your club meetings, club events and met so many members. I feel humbled to have so many friends in so many areas of the San Gabriel Valley District. Sunland, La Canada, Arcadia, Duarte, La Puente, Santa Fe Springs, Pio Pico, Walnut and Hacienda Heights I had so much fun this year!

Thank you to everyone who helped set up, break down and take care of the little things at Convention. We could not have done it without you. We had many opportunities to learn how to make a bigger impact next year.

I had coffee with leaders of your clubs, learned about your needs. I have attended so many conferences with CFWC and have been gathering resources for our District and the next adventures. Our next two years are going to be jam packed with stuff we are doing. Convention was just the beginning, and I am taking that momentum into the next term. Get ready, get set, LETS GO!

Thank you for all your support. Denise Jackman, 1st Vice President

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

2nd VP – Membership

Terri Cardenas • Pio Pico WC • terri.cardenas48@gmail.com

Hello! As your SGVD 2nd VP/Membership Chair, this has been an amazing two years of growth. I have made new friendships, attended conferences, and met many club members within the district. Being part of the SGVD Executive Committee has taught me so much. To Martha Rodriguez who will be the new 2nd VP/Membership Chair, I know you will do an amazing job and I'm just a phone call away. Best of luck to our new board.

Click HERE for Club Information Form (formerly known as Data Blank) **They were DUE May 1 to SGVD**.
Membership dues (paid with a club check) must include GFWC $15, CFWC $5, SGVD $4 per person.

CFWC CONVENTION CALL May 14-16, 2026 in ONTARIO

Click HERE for the State Convention CALL (also on sgvd.org)

★★★

Financial Secretary & Fundraising Chair

Yvette Romo • Financial Secretary • Rowland Hts WC • ymromo4@gmail.com

Over the past nearly four years, it has been a true privilege to serve as Financial Secretary for the San Gabriel Valley District. This experience has meant more to me than I can fully express.

It has always been my goal to support the important work we do together with accuracy and care. I hope that my reports have been clear, organized, and helpful, but more importantly, I hope they have reflected the care and commitment I feel toward this wonderful district and all its members. It has been an honor to play even a small part in supporting the work we do together.

Serving as Fundraising Chairperson has been especially close to my heart. Planning events and bringing ideas to life has been especially meaningful to me. I hope the activities I've organized have not only supported our mission but also brought joy, connection, and a sense of community to our members by creating opportunities for us to come together. I hope these moments not only supported our mission, but also brought joy, laughter, and a deeper sense of connection among us.

What I will cherish most are friendships, the shared purpose, and the spirit of community that make this district so special. I am truly grateful for the trust you have placed in me and for the opportunity to serve alongside such dedicated and inspiring individuals.

Although this chapter is ending, I look forward with excitement and an open heart to continuing to serve the District in new ways and in a new role. It is a joy to remain part of this journey with all of you.





Treasurer

Shari Kovach • Treasurer • Walnut Valley WC • skkovach99@gmail.com



Updating Financial Procedures for the Next Treasurer Team

As we approach the close of another successful fiscal year, the District Financial Team is focused on ensuring continuity, clarity, and accountability in all financial processes. A well-documented and organized transition not only protects the integrity of our finances but also empowers incoming treasurers and financial teams to begin their roles with confidence.

This article outlines updated procedures, key responsibilities, and a practical timeline to guide both District and Club Treasurers through the year. Why Updating Procedures Matters

Financial roles often rotate annually, and without clear documentation, critical knowledge can be lost. Updating procedures ensures:

- Consistency in financial reporting
- Compliance with state and federal requirements
- Accurate tracking of dues and obligations
- A seamless transition between outgoing and incoming officers

We strongly encourage all current treasurers to compile a transition binder or digital folder that includes reports, login credentials (securely shared), templates, and notes. Club Obligations

- Collect member dues and submit District portions on time
- Maintain transparent records of club finances
- Submit required reports to the District
- Support audits or financial reviews when requested

Recording Cash Flow: Best Practices

Accurate and timely recording of financial activity is essential.

Income Tracking

- Record all income immediately upon receipt
- Categorize sources (dues, fundraising, donations, etc.)
- Deposit funds promptly into the appropriate account

Expense Tracking

- Require receipts or documentation for all expenses
- Assign expenses to the correct budget category
- Record payments as they occur—not when reconciled

Posting to Accounts

- Use consistent account categories aligned with the budget
- Reconcile bank statements monthly
- Investigate and resolve discrepancies immediately

Treasurer's Reports

Treasurers should prepare monthly reports that include:

- Beginning and ending balances
- Detailed income and expense summary
- Budget vs. actual comparison
- Notes on unusual or significant transactions

Reports should be:

- Clear and easy to understand
- Shared with leadership and members as appropriate
- Archived for future reference

Year-End Statements and Audit

At the close of the fiscal year, treasurers must prepare:

- Statement of Activities (Income & Expense Report)
- Supporting documentation for all transactions

An audit or financial review should be conducted by an independent committee or qualified individual. This step ensures:

- Accuracy of records
- Compliance with policies
- Confidence in financial stewardship

Transitioning to the Next Treasurer

A successful handoff includes:

- Organized financial records (digital and/or physical)
- Written procedures and timelines
- Access to bank accounts and financial tools
- A walkthrough meeting to explain processes and answer questions

Think of this transition not as an endpoint, but as a continuation of responsible leadership.

Final Thoughts

Strong financial management is the backbone of a successful District and its Clubs. By updating procedures, maintaining organized records, and planning ahead, we ensure that future leaders are set up for success.

If you have questions or need templates for reports, timelines, or transition materials, please reach out to the District Financial Team—we're here to support you every step of the way.

Shari Kovach, Treasurer skkovach99@gmail.com and Yvette Romo, Financial Secretary ymromo4@gmail.com

Recording Secretary

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

So you are the Recording Secretary elect? Congratulations in your office. What are you recording?

Scribes in ancient history were essential for civilization to function, acting as the primary agents for administrative, legal ad religious record-keeping. Their utility spanned recording trade, calculating taxes, documenting court proceedings, and copying sacred texts. Scribes documented and preserved knowledge for future generations.

The Recording Secretary of the GFWC clubs have Robert's' Rules of Order and their ByLaws and Standing Rules to assist in what is to be documented and preserved for your club.

Some helpful hints for to start in your new position as recording secretary are:

- Resources for Federation protocols are available for the minutes taking responsibilities. This office is similar to other organizations that you may have be involved in, but Federation's criteria is somewhat different.
- Minutes are worded in the past tense. After the meeting, take your notes and develop the minutes of what was done in the past tense format. Parliamentary procedures most common sense advice is…KISS-Keep It Simple Sweetheart.
- Self organizational skills are what you can be practicing already and preparing for now. Your president and yourself can have conversations with each other on simple expectations of the agenda, the club minutes format and little minor details like that.
- Remind your officers, leaders, committee chairs and all of your members, that Federation protocol is that all reports, whether in the agenda or added to a meeting by the president; are to be given to the recording secretary, to the president and to the first vice president not only out of respect and information, but to be a part of what was done at the meeting.
- Minutes can be used for legal purposes for taxes on the treasurer reports, voting as in the new Board for bank signature cards, and the all important motions forms.

I hope that you and your recording years will be as enjoyable as possible for you and for the team to experience.

Thank you for your Federation sister support these past two years. Strength comes from the Lord, let Him guide you.

Environmental Team Leader

Floretta Sheppard • Whittier WC • floretta-glenn@outlook.com



We are in the middle of Spring, love is in the air. Birds have built their nests and laid eggs. In my yard I hear baby birds, see coyote pups, baby rabbits and squirrels. Flowers are in full bloom also, my roses are beautiful. April was Earth Month and as I read club reports this year, I would say that the clubs of SGVD are mindful of conservation for our communities and our earth.



Health & Wellness Team Leader

Tina LaCarra • Whittier WC • lacarrads@aol.com

My wish to you is that you are having a positive and content day or evening. May is Mental Health Month founded by Mental Health America in1949. This year's theme is a good one!! **More Good Days, Together**! The thought behind it is to encourage us all to reflect on what a "good' day looks like, both for ourselves, and for our communities. Together, we can use that insight to connect people to the right support at the right time, and shape advocacy, education and community engagement to make more good days possible for all.

Make affirmations for more good days and why they worked for you. Write down why it was a good day. Ask yourself if you can have more "good" days on a regular basis.

Here are 10 affirmations to try:

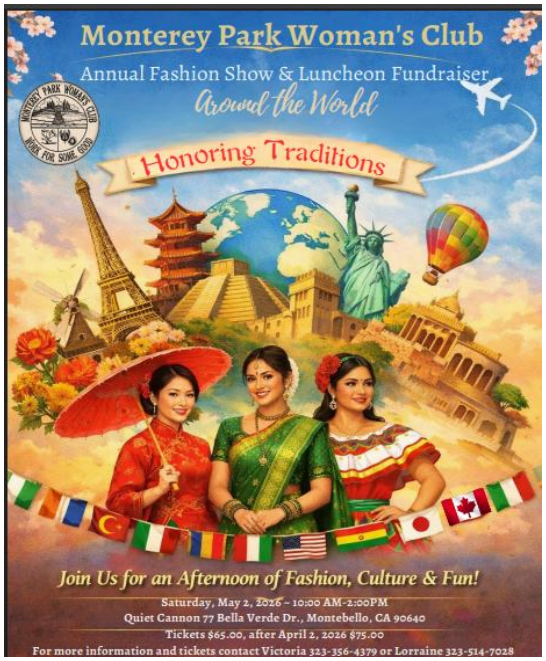
1. I am not defined by my circumstances or what happened to me. I am bigger than my struggles, and I can move past them with self-love and self-kindness.
2. I am allowed to have fun and enjoy my life, and I give myself permission to do so without worry or fear. I deserve to experience happiness, joy, and peace.
3. I give myself permission to speak up. My ideas, thoughts, feelings, and voice matter now and will always matter.
4. I am not a failure for not living up to someone else's expectations. I can show up for myself in whatever way feels good for me.
5. I am worthy of both self-love and love from others. There are people in my life who love me for me, and that includes myself.
6. I am allowed to change. I am allowed to expand my world as I see fit.
7. My safety is important to me. I trust myself to create and find people, places, or spaces that make me feel safe.
8. I can't predict or control the future. I can be present in my thoughts, feelings, and actions and fulfill my needs right now.
9. I will not feel stuck forever. I can imagine a life for myself that is bigger than this feeling, this struggle or the moment. I will keep going.
10. The power I have in my life is mine. No matter what happens, I always have the power to change, move forward, and have hope.

Share with friends and family. We all can use a pick me up! Of course, if you're having a good day…then your pets will benefit, too!! Thank you to the past SGVD Board. Best wishes to our incoming SGVD Board. Have a restful break…recharge, rest, relax and return full of ideas and possibilities.



Do you want your club represented in the Monthly issue of the KEY? Send me your club flyers, articles about your club or from district chairmen by the 20th of the month. Flyers will also be posted on our website sgvd.org

Janice Zolnekoff • jzolnekoff@gmail.com • 562-556-4000





LEADS Team Leader

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

Leadership is a Privilege - and with that comes specific obligations - Self check time prior to term in leading:

1) How do you handle pressure? Stay focused, prioritize tasks, and work towards practical solutions with others.
2) What is your biggest strength? Take responsibility and follow through on commitments no matter hard self motivation may seem.
3) How do you deal with feedback? Treat feedback with discernment and patience. Gather information and make thoughtful decisions instead of by impulses.
4) How do you manage deadlines? Plan ahead personally and with others the other leaders and focus on the high-impact tasks with others.
5) What motivates you to volunteer for GFWC?Progress, learning, and meaningful contributions. As a leader, keep the meaning alive as often as possible thur your positive behaviors.
6) What kind of Federation Leader do you want to be? When pitfalls come, expect imperfections and start again. A respected leader feels those around her as having shown compassion, empathy and how she cares for others.

In conclusion of this Leadership term, I express my gratitude to the SGVD members, and to my home club of Pio Pico that nominated me for LEADS in 2025.

It is my wish and hope that all members experience the courage, the integrity, the influence, the resiliency and their continued learning agility as I have developed during my term with you. Advise and support all your members as Federation continues through the decades.

Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness Team Leader

Marriyan Hill • Diamond Bar WC • marriyan@msn.com

Please remember and share the domestic violence hotline 800-799-7233, or you can text BEGIN to 88788.


Wistaria Thrift Shop
550 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. Sierra Madre – South Side Parking Lot
Sat, May 30
9 am – 1 pm
Is our BIG Year-End "Everything Goes"
$5
BROWN BAG
SALE
Everything Must Go!
$5
WISTARIA THRIFT SHOP
Fill it (them) up Still Only $5!
626-355-7739


Come, Bring Friends
For An
Afternoon of Games
Bridge, Bingo, Mah Jong, Rummicub,
Gin Rummy, or Share Your OWN Board Game(s)
Wednesday, May 27
1:00 – 4:00 pm
$10 or Sharable Snacks*
(* Chips, Dips, Nuts, Cookies, Bars, Brownies, Pretzels, etc.)
We provide Tea Sandwiches, Delights & Beverages
RSVP w/ Game Preference & Snack Type(s)
Candace Taylor – 626-355-6040
Sponsored by Sierra Madre Woman's Club


Duarte Woman's Club
6th Annual Memorial Day Flags of Honor 2026
In honor of ALL VETERANS
MEMORIAL DAY
REMEMBER AND HONOR
Flag Display at Thorsen Park
Encanto Parkway, Duarte
Display will be from Friday May 22 through Tuesday May 26
Pay $10 for each veteran you wish to honor
Dedicate a flag to your beloved veteran
Include name of veteran and branch of service
You may specify WWWI, WWWII, Korean War, Vietnam War, etc.
Proceeds will be used for scholarships
Make checks payable to Duarte Woman's Club
P.O. Box 88
Duarte, CA 91009-0088
Duarte Woman's Club is a 501(3) organization
For more information contact
Elizabeth Bitow 626-385-9584 Elizabeth.bitow@gmail.com


LA PUENTE VALLEY WOMAN'S CLUB
PRESENTS
MRS. POT'S
GARDEN
TEA PARTY
SUNDAY 5/17 | 12:00PM - 3:00PM
LOCATION: 201 N. 1st Street, La Puente
JOIN US FOR A DAY OF FUN & FRIENDSHIP!
COST: $30 PER PERSON | 2 FOR $50
ENTRY FEE INCLUDES:
Delicious Lunch
Tea Bar
Entertainment
Fancy Hats & Pearls Contest
GARDEN ACTIVITY
Each guest will PAINT and DECORATE a beautiful pot, then PLANT their very own SUCCULENT to take home!
MORE EXCITEMENT:
Opportunity Prizes | Door Prizes | Stuffed-Wallet!
PLUS! LA PUENTE VALLEY WOMAN'S CLUB BOUTIQUE will be available
TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT:
ZELLE: LPVWC@Yahoo.com
OR TEXT Sandy 626.622.2370
OR Martha 626.512.1241
Sponsored by:

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

5/8/26 SGVD District Mtg 9:30am – El Monte Community Ctr, Grace Black Auditorium, 3130 Tyler Av, El Monte

5/14-16/26 CFWC Convention - Ignite the Magic of Federation, Ontario Airport Hotel & Conference Center, 700 N. Haven Av, Ontario, CA

6/12/26 SGVD District Mtg 9:30am - El Monte Community Ctr, Grace Black Auditorium, 3130 Tyler Av, El Monte

6/26-29/26 **GFWC Convention** – Westin Kierland Resort & Spa, Scottsdale Arizona

No District Board Meetings in July or August 2026

Summer '26 Look forward to District trainings/workshops – Info coming soon!!

9/11/26 SGVD District Mtg 9:30am – location TBD

10/9/26 SGVD District Mtg 9:30 am – location TBD

11/13/26 SGVD District Fall Council Mtg 9:30am – location TBD

12/11/26 SGVD District Mtg/Holiday Boutique 9:30am – location TBD

1/8/27 SGVD District Birthday Council Mtg 9:30am – location TBD

2/12/27 SGVD District Mtg 9:30am – location TBD

3/12/27 SGVD District Spring Council Mtg 9:30am – location TBD

4/27 71st Annual SGVD Convention – location TBD

5/14/27 SGVD District Mtg 9:30am – location TBD

6/11/27 SGVD District Mtg 9:30am – location TBD



CLUB NEWS

KUDOS TO AZUSA WOMAN'S CLUB'S CITIZEN AND WOMAN OF THE YEAR!



Diana Reyes Williams (left) and Monica Ganas (right) immediately after being announced as AWC's "Woman of the Year" and "Citizen of the Year" respectively.

Drumroll please… the Azusa Woman's Club (AWC) has chosen Monica Ganas for its "Citizen of the Year Award" and Diana Reyes Williams for its "Woman of the Year Award". Monica and Diana are passionate about serving others, leading by example, and creating joy in moments both small and big throughout this year. Dr. Monica Ganas is being honored as "Citizen of the Year" for her many volunteer contributions to the AWC and the community. Monica has and continues to play a key role in Azusa's Renaissance Theater (ART) Program which creates experiences in the performing arts for participants of all ages and backgrounds. ART encourages the expression of creativity through various artistic projects throughout the year. Diana Reyes Williams who is AWC's "Woman of the Year" took the helm over four years ago when its then President became gravely ill. Diana's warmth makes everyone feel welcome. Diana's style of leadership encourages all AWC's members to feel included, engage in open dialogue, and work collaboratively to make all of AWC's meetings and events successful. Monica and Diana, the AWC recognizes and is deeply appreciative of all that you have done and continue to do to make our world a better place. Congratulations!

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.





BIRTHDAYS, CARE AND CONCERN

Mavis Hansen • El Monte WC • 626-441-6231 • newmavis082026@outlook.com

MAY BIRTHDAYS

TAURUS May 1-21 THE BULL The Taurus show a great interest in all physical matters, such as the body, food and sports. Setting up and giving shape to projects is one of their great strengths. They have the wonderful capacity to share and trade. A taurus greatly enjoys repose and comfort. Because they are acute observers and valuable advisors, they make excellent team members. Although they will protect their own interests first, they also care deeply for those around them. They live for the people they love!

COLORS: All shades of blue and deep green. GEMSTONES: Rose Quartz, Emerald and Lapis Lazuli.

TAURUS NOTABLES: Fred Astaire, John Brown, Duke Ellington, Ella Fitzgerald, Martha Graham, Coretta Scott King, Karl Marx, Shirley McLaine, Golda Meier, Jack Nicholson and William Shakespeare

GEMINI MAY 22-31 THE TWINS A Gemini has a desire to integrate socially, but also to break away from parental and other authority. Outspoken, but not rebellious, they revel in their own individuality and value personal freedom above all else. Geminis are attracted to excitement and change. They become bored easily and prefer going out to seek excitement rather then staying home with simple pleasures and security. They have nervous energy to burn and like being part of a group where they liven up any social event.

COLORS: Yellow and light green. GEMSTONES: Citrine, Amber and Tourmaline.

GEMINI NOTABLES: Laurie Anderson, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Jacques-yves Cousteau, Anne Frank, Judy Garland, Jim Thorpe, Henry Kissinger, Marilyn Monroe, Queen Victoria and John Wayne.

May Flower is the Lily of the Valley Symbol of happiness, humility and sweetness.

Happy Birthday MAY!!



Return to Key Editor:

JANICE ZOLNEKOFF

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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 2026 to June 2027*, please provide:

● list of names ● addresses and ● club check ($15) 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