THE FOOTHILL GAZETTE

GFWC CFWC Foothill District

Building Stronger Communities - Together



August 2026
Issue 19

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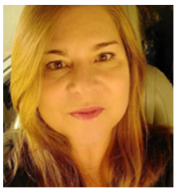

Luanne Arredondo
President

Leaning Forward into a New Federation Year
As summer begins to fade behind us, it is time to lean forward into the year ahead—renewed, connected, and ready to build upon the strong foundation already taking shape across the Foothill District.

I extend a very special thank-you to the district officers, chairmen, club presidents, and members who attended our June Leadership Summit. Your thoughtful participation, open conversations, and willingness to share your experiences provided valuable direction for this administration.

Be sure to take a gander at the newly updated Foothill District website for the 2026–2028 Administration. Using feedback received from summit participants and club presidents, we have simplified the messaging, improved navigation, and made it easier to locate important information.

Three August District Priorities

- Create the District Action Plan: The August Executive Committee meeting will focus on reviewing the Leadership Summit recommendations, identifying priorities, assigning responsibility, and establishing next steps.
- Finalize the District Website: Complete and organize the website so members, clubs, prospective members, and community partners can easily find information, resources, events, and club contacts.
- Prepare for Membership Month: Organize district tools and resources in August so clubs are ready to focus on membership growth, engagement, and connection in September.

Save the Date

- Foothill District In-Person Board Meeting - Saturday, September 19, 2026. More information will follow.

QuickTips

QuickTips provides quick, actionable insights for busy club leaders and members. From social media ideas and membership strategies to meeting tips and project inspiration, this section delivers easy-to-implement tools that help you stay active, organized, and impactful.



Dr. Linda Vallejo
1st Vice President, Dean

GFWC Learning Academy

As your district VP it is my responsibility to conduct Report Writing Workshops for the Foothill District Clubs, as well as to take part in Leadership Training Workshops. I've been reviewing GFWC's Learning Academy Catalog which is an on-line training site that offers numerous courses to meet our members' needs. The courses are to assist our members accomplish success in areas such as Leadership, Membership, and Finances. There are also Tools and resources within the learning academy that are intended to lead each club toward success.

I am looking forward to learning with you what The GFWC Learning Academy has to offer. Check it out at: https://memberportal.gfwc.org/pages/learning-academy

or CLICK HERE





2nd Vice President Membership
Pat Huffman

Foothill District is off to a strong start with President Luanne Arredondo hosting the 2026-2028 Foothill District Leadership Summit - introducing the administration theme, ***Empowering Clubs, Inspiring Leaders, Strengthening Federation.*** Each club president was invited along with 4 members from their club to come and learn and share in developing a plan for the next 2 years.

The first topic presented focused on Empowering Clubs, reinforcing the belief that clubs are the heart of Federation and the focal point of the district's work. The discussion emphasized that every club is unique. Clubs vary in size, membership, community needs, traditions, and leadership styles. Because no two clubs operate exactly alike, there is no one-size-fits-all approach to success. The district's role is not to direct clubs, but to provide the resources, guidance, and support each club needs to thrive while allowing every club the flexibility to serve its community in the way that works best for them.

To that end the monthly Executive Committee Meetings will include addressing club needs. These meetings will serve as a direct and timely connection between our clubs and District leadership. When your club has a question, concern, challenge, idea, upcoming event, special invitation, or matter you would like the District to consider, your club president will send it to me. As your District Second Vice President and Membership Chair, I will bring these items forward during our Executive Committee meetings and help ensure that clubs receive a response sooner rather than waiting for the next District Board meeting.

Items may include:
• Questions requiring clarification or guidance
• Challenges for which your club may need support
• Ideas or recommendations for the District
• Upcoming events you would like shared or promoted
• Invitations for District officers
• Membership needs or opportunities
• Concerns that would benefit from Executive Committee discussion

Please feel free to send items at any time. To help us include them on the next meeting agenda, submissions should be sent to me before the last Wednesday of the month whenever possible.

Our goal is simple: to listen, respond, and support our clubs in a more consistent and timely way.



Recording Secretary
Pat Borchard

I want to begin this message with a thank you to Tami Miller, our previous Recording Secretary for handing over hard copies of the minutes. As a Recording Secretary this is one of your responsibilities.
Yes, downloading them on a thumb drive is easier, but bound, hard copies are required.

As Recording Secretary you may assist the President in establishing her agenda by informing him/her if a committee was to report, motions that may have been postponed, or any unfinished business.

In addition, items you should have at every meeting:

- The membership roster
- list of existing committees and its members
- the bylaws, special rules of order, and standing rules.
- recent minutes

In regards to motions, you must get down the exact wording of motions, especially main motions and amendments. The use of motion slips is very helpful with this.

I know our clubs are dark in July and August. I hope that you are all enjoying your well deserved break. See you at our next District meeting.



Treasurer
Tamara Miller



OTHER NEWS:

District T-Shirt Order: I will be taking orders for Foothill District T-Shirts. Deadline to place an order is July 31st. Email your size to Club1270deventer@yahoo.com. Cost estimate is $25.00 not to be paid until you receive your order. Ex-large will be a little more. Any questions, send to me via email.

GFWC CFWC FOOTHILL DISTRICT

JUNE 2026 Treasurer's Report

MONTHLY ACTIVITY

JUNE 1, 2026

INCOME

Parliamentary Group	$443.58	Closed Account
TOTAL INCOME	$443.58	

EXPENSES

Total Expenses	$0.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES	$0.00	

JUNE 30, 2026

ENDING BALANCE $1,668.26

ACCOUNT SUMMARY

BEGINNING BALANCE	$1,224.68
TOTAL INCOME	$443.58
TOTAL EXPENSES	$0.00
BALANCE	$1,668.26
ENDING BALANCE	$1,668.26

FISCAL YEAR 2025–2026 SUMMARY

DONATIONS

AREA B Charity Donation	$40.00
CFWC Convention Ad	$60.00
TOTAL DONATIONS	$100.00

OPERATING COSTS

Website+Processing Fee	$271.92
CFWC Board Mtg.	$250.00
AREA B Conference	$50.00
CFWC Board Mtg Favors	$54.45
Masonic Lodge Rental	$150.00
CFWC Board Meeting Pres.	$250.00
Raffle Application	$30.00
District Convention	$90.00
CFEWC Convention	$600.00
District Past Pres. Pins	$28.00
Perpetual Spirit Award	$38.05
TOTAL OPERATING COSTS	$1,812.42

IN KIND DONATIONS

District Misc. Donations	$482.72
TOTAL IN KIND DONATIONS	$482.72

MEMBERSHIP: CURRENT TOTALS (JUNE 2026)

La Verne–San Dimas	49
Federated East Valley	19
SoCal Volunteers	11
Parliamentary Ed. Group	–
TOTAL MEMBERS	79

Thank you

for your continued stewardship and support of our District!

★ Strong finances. Stronger Federation. | Together, we make a difference.

Club Toolbox

The Club Toolbox equips clubs with plug-and-play resources that save time, spark ideas, and strengthen leadership. Whether you are planning events, growing membership, improving communication, or building projects, this section offers tools you can immediately put into action.



Parliamentarian
Toby Kahan

Parliamentarian's Corner: The Motion-Making Cheat Sheet - Turn Discussion into Action
A well-run meeting does not require members to memorize every parliamentary rule. It begins with knowing how to present an idea clearly and move it toward a decision. Use this simple motion process:
1. Gain recognition - Wait until the president acknowledges you.
2. State the motion - Say: "I move that…" followed by the specific action you want the club to consider.
3. Receive a second - Another member says, "Second." A second means the idea is worthy of discussion—not that the member supports it.
4. Discuss the motion - The president restates the motion and invites members to speak. Discussion should remain focused on the motion currently before the club.
5. Vote - The president asks for those in favor and those opposed, then announces the result.

Ready to Use Resource

Ready-to-Use Motion Formula

I move that our club [take a specific action] by [date or timeframe], with a cost not to exceed [amount], and that [person or committee] be authorized to coordinate the details.

Example:
"I move that our club host a fall membership open house in October, with expenses not to exceed $300, and that the Membership Committee coordinate the event."

Parliamentarian's Quick Tip
Before discussion begins, make certain the motion clearly answers:

- What are we doing?
- Who is responsible?
- When will it happen?
- How much may be spent?

Clear motions create clear decisions—and clear decisions help clubs turn good ideas into meaningful action.

Membership That Fits Today

Attracting Younger Members with Plug-and-Play Tools
Younger members are not necessarily looking for fewer responsibilities—they are looking for meaningful involvement that fits their lives. Clubs can become more attractive by making participation flexible, purposeful, and easy to understand.

Begin by clearly communicating what members gain from joining. Highlight opportunities to build friendships, develop leadership skills, make professional connections, and create visible community impact. Avoid relying only on statements such as “We need new members.” Instead, show prospective members what they can experience, contribute, and accomplish.

Offer multiple ways to participate. A younger professional, parent, student, or caregiver may not be able to attend every traditional meeting but may gladly help with a weekend project, manage a social media campaign, design a flyer, or serve on a short-term committee. Flexible participation is not reduced commitment—it is a different pathway to service.

Plug-and-Play Membership Tools

- The Personal Invitation: “Several of us are working on a project that supports _____. I thought of you because of your interest in _____. Would you join us as our guest?”

- The 30-Day Welcome Plan: Within a new member’s first month, introduce her to three members, invite her to one service activity, explain one club tradition, and offer one small role based on her interests.

The Interest Card: Ask every guest or new member to identify

1. Causes they care about
2. Skills they would enjoy sharing
3. Skills they wants to develop
4. Times and types of activities that work best

The One-Project Invitation: Invite prospective members to participate in one defined project before asking them to make a long-term commitment.

Clubs attract younger members when they offer more than membership—they offer belonging, purpose, growth, and a clear place to contribute.

Meetings Members Look Forward To

Creative Ideas That Blend Business, Connection, and Purpose
Club meetings should accomplish necessary business, but they should also strengthen relationships, generate ideas, and remind members why their participation matters. A predictable agenda can provide structure without making every meeting feel exactly the same.

Consider dividing the meeting into three parts: ***Connect, Conduct, and Create.***

Begin with a brief connection activity. Ask members to share a recent success, recognize someone who helped with a project, or respond to a question related to the club's mission. This gives members a reason to speak early and helps newer members feel included.

Conduct essential business efficiently. Send reports in advance when possible and use meeting time for decisions rather than lengthy updates. Place routine items on a consent agenda so members can focus on matters that require discussion.

End with an activity that creates value. Possibilities include:

- Mini Skill-Building: Invite a member to provide a 10-minute lesson on public speaking, social media, fundraising, parliamentary procedure, or community partnerships.
- Project Lab: Give small groups 15 minutes to improve an upcoming project, identify community needs, or solve a club challenge.
- Community Voice: Invite a teacher, nonprofit leader, student, first responder, or local business owner to describe one current community need.
- Member Spotlight: Feature one member's career, service journey, personal interest, or special skill.
- Meeting on the Move: Occasionally meet at a project site, local business, park, museum, or community organization.

Before planning a meeting, ask: What should members know, feel, and do when they leave? When meetings provide connection, useful information, and a path to action, attendance becomes something members value rather than another obligation on the calendar.

Social Media with a Purpose

A Simple Strategy Clubs Can Maintain

Effective social media does not require posting every day or being active on every platform. It requires consistent, relevant content that helps people understand who your club is, what it does, and how they can become involved.

Use four simple content categories:

- Show the Impact: Share project photographs, results, community partnerships, and stories about the people or causes supported.
- Show the People: Introduce members, recognize volunteers, celebrate milestones, and capture moments of friendship. Prospective members want to see both service and belonging.
- Share the Invitation: Promote upcoming meetings, service projects, fundraisers, and membership opportunities. Include the date, time, location, purpose, and a clear way to respond.
- Provide Value: Post community resources, volunteer tips, educational information, or timely reminders connected to your club's work.

A simple monthly schedule might include one impact story, one member spotlight, one upcoming opportunity, and one useful community resource.

Use clear photographs whenever possible. Avoid crowded graphics with too much text. Place the essential message in the caption and begin with a strong opening line, such as:

- "Here is what 20 volunteers accomplished in one morning."
- "Meet the member behind one of our most successful projects."
- "Looking for a meaningful way to serve locally?"

Every post should include one next step: attend, volunteer, donate, share, learn more, or contact the club.

Before posting photographs, confirm that appropriate permissions have been obtained, particularly when children are pictured.

The goal is not simply to collect likes. Social media should help the club become more visible, understandable, approachable, and connected to the community it serves.

Steal This Idea

Steal This Idea will highlight successful projects, programs, and creative solutions from clubs across the district and across Federation. Each feature shares practical ideas that other clubs can easily adapt, replicate, and bring into their own communities.



Advocates for Children
Mary Matson



Create a "School Nurse Needs" Basket

The GFWC Maury County Woman's Club of Tennessee supports local schools at the beginning of the year by providing school nurses with baskets filled with frequently requested supplies. Each basket may include bandages, wipes, ice packs, lip balm, T-shirts, sweatpants, underwear, and a gift card for unexpected needs. The project helps supplement limited school health-office budgets while ensuring students can receive practical care when something happens during the school day.

Why This Idea Works
It is simple, affordable, and easy to scale for clubs of any size. It also creates a natural partnership with a neighborhood school and meets needs that may not be covered through traditional school-supply drives.

Make It Your Own
Contact a school nurse and ask for a short wish list before collecting anything. Your club might sponsor:

- One complete nurse basket
- A monthly restock of essential items
- Gift cards for emergency purchases
- A district-wide collection involving several schools
- A "Nurse's Most Needed Item" drive at one club meeting

Add your club's name and contact information to the basket so school personnel know who made the donation possible. With permission, share a photograph of the delivery and explain how the items will support students.

Plug-and-Play Collection Message
Help us stock a local school health office! Bring one new item from the nurse's wish list to our next meeting. Together, we can make certain students have access to basic comfort, clothing, and care when they need it most.

A small basket can provide comfort to dozens of children—and open the door to a lasting community partnership.

Member Spotlight

Celebrating Service - Honoring Our Connection Champions
Connection Champions are the members who make others feel welcomed, included, and valued.

Every club has someone who notices when a member is sitting alone, warmly greets a guest, introduces a newer member to others, makes a follow-up phone call, or encourages someone to participate. These small acts may not appear in meeting minutes or project reports, but they often determine whether a guest returns and whether a member feels connected enough to stay.

This month, we celebrate our Connection Champions—the members who:

- Greet guests and help them feel comfortable
- Introduce new members and explain club traditions
- Reach out when someone has been absent
- Invite others to attend projects, programs, and events
- Encourage quieter members to share their ideas
- Help create friendship across generations and groups

A successful membership program begins long before an application is completed. It begins when someone feels seen, included, and genuinely wanted.

Who Is Your Club's Welcomer?
Send us the name and photograph of a member who helps others feel that they belong. Include one or two sentences describing what she does and why her welcoming spirit matters to your club. Because sometimes the person who opens the door is also the reason someone chooses to walk through it.

THANK YOU CONNECTION CHAMPIONS MAKING A DIFFERENCE!



CFWC Area B Vice President
Pat Borchard

I am writing this message prior to the CFWC July Board meeting. This meeting was held July 24-25 in Bakersfield. The main emphasis was “Membership”. Information shared will be disseminated to District Presidents and/or club presidents to then be shared with their Membership Officer or Membership Team. Our goal is not only to attract members but retain members, in addition to encouraging them to take on leadership roles in club, district, and CFWC.

There were also sessions lead by CFWC President, Chris Herzog, 1 st Vice President, Cindy Sanders, and State Chairmen sharing out, along with Area Vice Presidents sharing information related to the Area Conferences being held in October.

Oftentimes, I get information that I need to forward to District Presidents. It is then the District President’s responsibility to forward this information to their club presidents who then forward it to their club membership.

On July 6th I met with the Area B Presidents (Foothill District, San Gabriel Valley District, San Joaquin Valley District, and Tierra Adorada District) to discuss the upcoming Area B Conference. It was felt that the membership of Area B should have input also, since it is your conference.

The recent survey you received was created by the four District President’s in Area B. Denise Jackman assisted in developing the questions, and Lu Arredondo volunteered to create the survey. I forwarded the link to each of the District Presidents in Area B who then forwarded it to their respective membership.

Thank you to those of you who took the time to complete the survey. We have used your input to plan the upcoming Conference. San Gabriel Valley District is hosting the Conference this year, so I am encouraging you to Save the Date and hope you plan to attend. Flyer and registration form will be forthcoming.

I am encouraging you to utilize Federation Resources:

- GFWC Handbook - filled with information for program areas, as well as, other information.
- GFWC’s training videos - find them in the learning library at GFWC.org.
- CFWC QuickBytes - subscribe at CFWC.org and click on the tab Publications. This is the state’s weekly newsletter. You will generally receive it every Monday.

One of my main roles as Area VP is to visit Districts and/or clubs in the state. Please invite me to a meeting or an event, I would love to attend. Enjoy the rest of your summer. I look forward to seeing you!

Looking Ahead

This section highlights upcoming district meetings, important dates, future newsletter topics, and key reminders clubs should be preparing for in the months ahead. From leadership planning and project deadlines to events and seasonal opportunities, Looking Ahead helps us stay informed, organized, and ready for what's next.

NEXT MONTH'S THEME - From Good Ideas to Club Action

Coming next issue:

- Turning Club Goals into a 90-Day Action Plan
- A simple way to break annual goals into achievable September-November priorities.
- Matching Members to Meaningful Roles
- Planning a Successful Fall Membership Event
- Building Community Partnerships That Work
- Tracking and Sharing Club Impact

UPCOMING DISTRICT ACTION ITEMS - Clubs Should Be Preparing For:

August

- Club membership drives and community visibility events
- Fall program and fundraising planning
- Back-to-school community service projects

September

- Finalize 90-day club action plans and assign member responsibilities
- Schedule fall membership events, service projects, and community partnerships
- Confirm budgets, timelines, publicity, and reporting needs for upcoming activities

SAVE THE DATE - UPCOMING DISTRICT, CFWC and GFWC Events

August

- 28 - 30: GFWC Board of Dir. Meeting—The Westin Alexandria Old Town, VA

September

- 11 - 13: WSR Conference—The Sheraton Park City, Utah 84060
- **19: 10:00 - 11:30 am. Foothill District Board Meeting - District business and guest speaker on Fundraising.**

Visit the CFWC Calendar & Resources and GFWC Official Website for updated meetings, programs, publications, and leadership resources.

CFWC

AREA B

FIESTA!

of Friendship, Service & Leadership

"Celebrating Membership • Inspiring Leaders and Strengthening Communities"

October 10, 2026

10:00-2:00 pm

Leadership Speakers:

Chris Herzog - CFWC President

Cindy Sanders, 1st Vice President Dean

Mickie Reed - 2nd Vice President Membership

Guest speaker and Project for
Elder Abuse Identification and Education

Cost is $55.00 per person and includes Buffet lunch

Registration is from 9:30 to 10:00 am

Northminster Presbyterian Church
400 Rancheria Rd. Diamond Bar, California

Event Hosted by San Gabriel Valley District

RAFFLE! PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT WISE AND HEALTHY AGING 501(C)3

Area B Conference Registration

Fiesta of Friendship, Service & Leadership

Saturday, October 10, 2026

Registration Fee: $55.00 per person

REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____Club Name: _____

District Name: _____Phone Number: _____

Contact Email : _____

Please indicate the total number of people included with this registration.

How many first timers attending? _____

Number of Meals/Attendees: _____Total Amount Enclosed: $_____

(Registration/Lunch Fee: $55.00 × Number of Attendees)

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

(Food Restrictions / Dietary Needs - Please attach list any food allergies, dietary restrictions, or special meal requests for anyone included in this registration.

Payment Information

☐ Check Enclosed - Please make checks payable to:

San Gabriel Valley District (SGVD)

Mail Registration and Payment To: SGVD Area B Conference

18751 Marimba St. Rowland Heights, CA 91748

Registration Deadline:

Please submit your registration and payment by: October 2, 2026

Questions?

Denise Jackman - Email: Clubwoman@icloud.com or Call/Text 424-237-9266