

Voices & Visions



A Newsletter of the Northford-North Branford Women's Club GFWC

May, 2025

General Assembly meeting, May 20th, 7:00PM

STW Community Center

Presidents' Report

Courtney Cleary & Nicki McNeill

Next week is the last general meeting until September so I hope everyone can be there! We will be hearing from Fostering Family Hope. Please bring new socks and/or underwear for children to the meeting if you can. We will also vote on the Finance Budget for next year at this meeting and pick a date for the August New Member picnic. Coming up in June is the dinner at Café Fiore (please note venue change) on June 3rd at 6pm, Honor Them with a Flag on June 12th, and the Golf Tournament on June 21st. Don't forget, if you pay your dues for next year by the May meeting, you are entered to win free dues for next year. And finally, mark your calendar for this year's annual Lake Galliard Walk which will be on Sunday, September 21st.

Upcoming dates:

Tuesday, 5/20/25—General Assembly Meeting, 7:00PM

Tuesday, 6/3/25—June Dinner at Café Fiore, 6:00PM

Saturday, 6/7/25—Summer Reading Kickoff

Thursday, 6/12/25—Honor Them With a Flag Ceremony, 7:00PM

Saturday, 6/21/25—Golf Tournament

Vice-President/Membership

Leslie Ciarleglio

New members will be installed at the June dinner.

The club will have a craft table at the Library Summer Reading kick off on Saturday, June 7th from 1-3:30 at the Atwater Library. Courtney, Liz, Elissa and Rose will be doing a craft with the kids. Club fliers will be distributed to prospective members.

**PLEASE WEAR YOUR CLUB PINS
TO THE MEETING**

Treasurer's Report

Elissa Orio

Checking: \$5,082.25

Savings: \$2,743.90

Club dues are \$35 for next year and are due by the May General Assembly Meeting. If you pay by the May meeting, you are eligible for a drawing to have your dues refunded. The drawing will be held at the June dinner.

Corresponding Secretary

Liz Boissard

No report.

Programs

Lynne Nielsen

May 20th Meeting: Fostering Family Hope is a 501C3 that helps foster children in practical ways. It runs a Care Bag program which provides children with all of the basic necessities. Each bag includes a week or two worth of outfits, pajamas, socks and underwear/diapers and wipes, hair and body care essentials, a book or toy, and a comfort item. These bags are distributed to local foster care agencies. We are collecting items for the meeting. Please see the list under collections on the next page.

Social Media/Publicity

Lisa King

Articles about Honor Them with a Flag and also the golf tournament were listed on the Facebook page and sent to the papers.

Website

Patty Meglio

The website was updated with new information and photos of the New Reach Project. The Home page was also updated.

www.northfordnbwomensclubgfwc.org

Hospitality

Barbara LaFrance & Mouna Weaver

This month's theme is "Appetizers". The hostess is Cathy Slobowski and the co-hostesses are Ivey Cooley and Cathy Johnson.

Newsletter & Publications

Mary Ellen Collett

Please email reports for the newsletter to me by the Friday after the board meeting. Send them to my email address: me.collett@snet.net.

Education/Scholarship

Rose Lynch

Our candidate, Riley Minns, was awarded a \$2,000 Phipps Memorial Scholarship. She is from North Haven and attends Boston University, but currently is studying abroad in Spain.

Garden

Mary Connolly

A new sign was produced for the garden and will be installed.

Parliamentarian

Kim Wollman

No report.

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE: Thank you to everyone who volunteered to help at our drive by either working, making food or donating blood! It was truly appreciated. We collected 22 pints which will benefit 66 people!

GIVE HOPE THIS SPRING! GIVE BLOOD!

Collections:

Fostering Family Hope: Currently collecting socks and underwear for boys, girls and teens. Sizes ranging from preemies to teens. Please bring your donated items to the May meeting so we can present them to Fostering Family Hope at our meeting.

North Branford Food Pantry: The food pantry is in need of cereal, canned goods, non-perishables, cake mixes and icing. If you would like to donate, it would be much appreciated. Please give items to Lynne Nielsen.

Can Flip Tops: We are collecting flip tops that will be given to Ronald McDonald House. Please bring them along to the meeting and pass them on to Lynne Nielsen.

St. Joseph's Cathedral Pantry: Household items, clothes, bedding, sheets, etc. Please pass them along to Elissa.

PROPOSED FINANCE BUDGET 2025-2025

Finance Expense	Amount
Corresponding Secretary	\$200.00
Programs	\$ 50.00
Membership	\$100.00
Website	\$300.00
Totoket Times/Publicity	\$ 50.00
Hospitality	\$ 35.00
General Fund	\$ 50.00
Installation/June Dinner	\$ 25.00
Registration Fees	\$300.00
Liability	\$ 80.58
Post Office Box	\$188.00
Baby Books	\$ 40.00

TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$1,418.58
Club dues collected:	-\$420.00
FINANCE FUNDS TO RAISE:	\$998.58

Members:	28
Club Dues: 28 @ \$15	\$420.00
Federation Dues:28 @ \$20	\$560.00

JUNE DINNER Tuesday, June 3rd, 6:00pm

Café Fiore
420 East Main Street, Branford

Buffet which includes:

--Hot antipasto appetizer (Fried Calamari, Fried Mozzarella, Clams Casino and Portobello Mushrooms)
--Entrees: Chicken Parmesan, Salmon Oreganata, Eggplant Rollatini and Penne All Vodka
--Garlic rolls, house garden salad
--Dessert
--Coffee and Tea
\$46.00 per person
(Cash bar available for soda or alcoholic beverages.)

Honor Them With a Flag

The Northford-North Branford Women's Club, GFWC is sponsoring Honor Them With a Flag, a salute to our country's military personnel, veterans and first responders. The public is invited to participate by purchasing a U.S. flag dedicated to a member of our military, first responder or anyone else close to your heart. The flags will go on display on the front lawn at the North Branford Town Hall from two days before Flag Day, Thursday, June 12th to July 4th. Each flag, 12" x 18", will have a white ribbon attached to it inscribed with the name and rank of the soldier, first responder or loved one. Flags will be available for collection for one week after July 4th from the lawn of the North Branford Town Hall. Proceeds will benefit local veterans' projects. To order, fill out a form and mail a check made out to the Northford-North Branford Women's Club, GFWC for \$10 per flag to: The Northford-North Branford Women's Club, P.O. Box 264, Northford, CT 06472. Information is also available online at: www.northfordnbwomensclubgfwc.org. There is no limit on purchases, but all forms must be received by June 7th. For more information, contact Mary Ellen Collett at 203-484-9079. A ceremony has been scheduled for Thursday, June 12th at 7:00pm on the North Branford town hall lawn. Please come and join us for this moving program.

Please fill out the following information and make a check payable to the
Northford-North Branford Women's Club, GFWC.

Mail to Northford-North Branford Women's Club, P.O. Box 264, Northford, CT 06472

Deadline: Saturday, June 7, 2025

Name and Rank: _____

(As you would like it to appear on the flag's ribbon—please print)

Service Branch: _____

Dates of Service: _____

Name of Purchaser: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Number of Flags: _____ x \$10 per flag = Total donation: _____

Photocopies or similar copies of this form are acceptable.