

Newtown Woman's Club, GFWC, Inc.  
P.O. Box 101 • Newtown, CT 06470

*Newtown Woman's Club*  
*Rooster*



*Ramblings*

*Happy*   
*Valentine's Day!*

**February 2025**



### **On This Date in History: January 16**

- 1768: 1st American chartered fire insurance company opens in Pennsylvania
- 1792 US postal service created, postage 6-12 cents depending on distance
- 1872: New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art opens
- 1962: John Glenn becomes the first American to orbit the Earth, aboard Friendship 7
- 1943 Phil Wrigley & B Rickey charter All-American Girls Softball League
- 1998: Tara Lipinski becomes youngest Olympic figure skating gold medalist



**Newtown Woman's Club February Luncheon  
Newtown Congregational Church  
14 West Street, Newtown  
February 20, 2025**

**Location:** Newtown Congregational Church

**Directions:** From the flagpole, turn left onto Church Hill Road just past the Meeting House (right if you are coming from the other direction.) At the next "y", stay to the left and continue on West Street. Turn right into the Newtown Congregational Church parking lot at the second driveway.

**Time:** 11:30 a.m. Registration and Social Time. 12:00 p.m. Meeting and Luncheon

**Date:** Thursday, February 20, 2025

**Cost:** \$5 (Please make checks payable to the Newtown Woman's Club)

**Program:** No program this month

**February Luncheon Menu**

*"My mom made me two dishes: take it or leave it."  
~ Stephen Wright*

- Brown Bag lunch (bring your own).
- Water, coffee and dessert will be provided.



**Deadline for reservations is Saturday, February 15, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.**

*NO EXCEPTIONS will be made after that date.*

If you have any questions, please call Marg Studley at 203-426-3651

**PLEASE NOTIFY YOUR CALLER IF YOU WILL BE AWAY! THANK YOU.**

**Please pay for your lunch by check or exact cash amount.  
Karen and Peg will thank you for that!**

# The Newtown Woman's Club, GFWC/CT, Inc.

## Rooster Ramblings

**VOLUME LVII**  
**Issue 6**  
**February 2025**  
**Editor:** Judy Rosentel

**Website:** nwc-gfwc.org

**President:**  
Rosemary Rau

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:** *Rosemary Rau*



Dear Members,

On Saturday, January 25, 1~4 pm, the C.H. Booth Library hosted a Global Community Engagement Day.

An informative and friendly format for our community to learn more about the diverse organizations in town, what they have to offer and how people can participate on a volunteer basis. Gina Pin and I hosted our Newtown Woman's Club table. It was an enjoyable afternoon. A nice flow of people. Our photo boards sparked interest and good conversations. We gave out 11 of the (recently updated) Club's tri-fold brochures telling the story of who we are, what we do and why, when, where.

A few women from the Garden Club of Newtown and the Town & Country Garden Club expressed interest in membership. And, each extended an invitation to All of us to attend one of their upcoming speaker events. We *even* had a few gentlemen inquire about joining the club, all in fun. 😊

Every organization (some 20+) in attendance was in pursuit of the "M&Ms"- Man/woman power and money! Essential to successful endeavors. Those reps I spoke with lamented the shrinking numbers of both. We are all in the same boat!

Kudos to Shari Merrill and the library Staff for an awesome job with the event's organization and attention to details. No small task.

Thank you Pat and Millie for bringing this event to our attention.

A special thanks to Gina. A hostess with the mostest!

Looking forward to next year. 😊

*Rosemary*

### **WAYS AND MEANS**

*Marie Sturdevant*  
*Marg Studley*

**The Newtown Woman's Club**  
**invites you to a**

Book Signing Luncheon with  
Connecticut's own,

**Author Valerie Taylor**

She will discuss her latest book,

***A Whale of A Murder***

Saturday, February 22, 2025

At 12 noon

**Barbarie's Black Angus Grill**

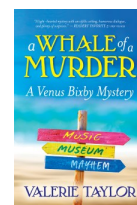
5 Eagle Road, Danbury

**Cost: \$25**

Please contact the following members  
to purchase tickets:

Marie Sturdevant: 203-304-0192

Marg Studley: 203-426-3651



**MEMBER OF THE MONTH (MOM)  
CHRIS DRAN**

**What is your favorite season and holiday?** *Late spring, early summer. Easter.*

**What is your favorite animal? and do you have any pets?** *Dogs. I love all animals, but I have to say that dogs are my favorite. My Beagle, Delilah, and my cat, Stanley, are my fur babies now. However, I have had so many animals throughout my life. When I die, I hope that "All the dogs and cats (animals) you have ever had, will meet you at heaven's gate to welcome you."*

**What is your favorite color?** *Blue*

**Do you collect anything? Hobbies? Talents?** *I don't have any special hobbies or talents, but I get a lot of satisfaction from volunteering in various organizations.*

**What is your favorite childhood memory?** *Moving to beautiful Newtown from Long Island.*

**What is the bravest thing you have ever done?** *Taking care of my mom after she broke her hip, and making sure she would always be able to stay at home, and not have to spend her last years in a facility.*

**If you could go back in time, what topic/event would you choose?** *In 1972, when my mom, dad, sister, brother, and I went for a month-long visit to Germany to finally get to know all our relatives. Being a first-generation American, I never had any grandparents, aunts, uncles, or cousins in the USA. I was amazed at how many relatives I had. Something I never took for granted.*

**What is your favorite guilty pleasure?** *Coffee. I love a good cup(s) of coffee. It is actually an inherited trait passed down from my great grandmother.*

**PROGRAMS:** *Marie Sturdevant  
Marg Studley*

There will not be a program this month. Enjoy catching up with your friends and take time to make new friends!



*Coke Cramer, Lisa Walsh, Pat Lowell, Michelle Rosenthal and Jan Happel putting together Valentines for Veterans*



*Guest Speaker Trent McCann of the Newtown Forest Association*



**CONSERVATION/ENVIRONMENT:** *Evie Watts*  
*Millie Anderson*

**Message Corner**



Please support the NWC's Recycled Greeting Card Program. We are collecting used greeting cards at our February luncheon meetings. Cards must be blank on the backside of the front (i.e. no messages). We accept greeting cards of various themes e.g. religious, holiday, birthday, sympathy, get well, etc. We cannot accept Hallmark cards, American Greeting cards Disney cards or cards promoting charitable organizations.

The cards will be sent to St. Jude's Children's Ranch in Bolder, Nevada. The ranch is a facility for young people, offering lodging, counseling and support to young victims of abuse. The cards are "remade" into new cards by the residents and sold to earn funds to support the Ranch's programs.

The NWC has participated in this program for many years. Thank you for your continued support.

**ORNAMENTS:** *Pat Bailey*  
*LeReine Frampton*  
*Millie Anderson*

This year's profit totaled \$3,420.00. LeReine sold older ornaments online and earned the club \$1,500.00.

*Pat Bailey  
and  
LeReine Frampton  
Giving the 2024  
Ornament Report*



BINGO prizes for Stone Bridge - (formally Newtown Rehab) If you can bring small gifts to each meeting for Pat to bring to Stone Bridge, she would appreciate it. Please refer to the list from our October newsletter.

We also collect for The Center for Empowerment and Education at each meeting.

\*\*\*\*\*

There will be a link to the newsletter on the website each month in case you have trouble opening the email file. Here is the link. If you click on it, it will bring you to our site. <http://www.nwc-gfwc.org>

**FOOD PANTRY:** *Barbara Bradley*  
*Chris Dran*

This month's food donations will be for The Hospitality Hall at the Newtown Congregational Church. All food donations are welcome. However, the need for canned tuna, canned chicken, and hearty soups are high on the wish list.

Thank you for your support.

**CARING FRIENDS:** *Mary Obre*



I sent a sympathy card to Marie Sturdevant - her brother passed away and a Thinking of You card to Marion Thompson (I try to send one every few months, she was such a wonderful member of NWC - did so much.)

Please contact me if you have any updates on Marion or Dottie that I can share with our membership. You can reach me at [mtobre@aol.com](mailto:mtobre@aol.com) or call at 203-426-4130.

## MINUTES:

Pat Lowell

### Newtown Woman's Club Meeting MINUTES January 16, 2025



The meeting was held at Newtown Congregational Church, 14 West Street, Newtown, CT. President Rosemary Rau opened the meeting at 11:59am.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Marie Sturdevant. The Collect was led by Susan Norwell. An Inspirational Message was read by Alice Horahan.

Rosemary received unanimous approval for the following: To keep Newtown Women's Club membership open.

As a new fund raiser, a public 50/50 raffle, where 100 tickets at \$20 each would be sold. The winner receives \$1,000 and the club receives \$1,000. Required paperwork will be filed. Second and third prizes, possibly gift cards, would be awarded as second and third prizes. The date and venue to be determined.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

-ORNAMENTS: Pat Bailey and LeReine Frampton presented a final report and tally for the 2024 Christmas ornament. The profit totaled \$3,420.00. LeReine sold older ornaments online and earned the club \$1,500.00. They thanked all committee members who assisted with the ornament sale with them for the past ten years. Pat announced that she is stepping down from her position as chairperson of this committee effective immediately.

-BOOK CLUB: Joan Lavery announce the book club meeting next Thursday at Booth Library, 1pm where Mad Honey will be discussed. Joan said for members to call her if they need a ride. The group will also be discussing changing the meeting place to members' homes.

-MEMBERSHIP: Dolores Judge asked us to welcome new member Seelena Genna! Dolores also reminded those invited to the New Member Gathering to please RSVP to her as soon as possible. The meeting is on Wednesday, February 12 from 1-3pm in the second floor Gathering Room at Booth Library. Refreshments will be served. Dolores is selling magnetic club logo pins for \$10 each. The first seven purchasers will also receive a bonus club pen!

-KNITTING: Janet Stockalis shared that she and four committee members have donated a number of knitted items such as hats, mittens, and blankets to The Newtown Police Department, Dorothy Day, Faith Food Pantry, and Danbury Hospital NIC Unit, the latter having responded almost immediately with a big thank you phone call!

-CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH: Pat Lowell thanked everyone for helping with and signing Valentine's Day Cards today. Fifty cards each will be delivered to The Vet Center in Danbury and Rocky Hills Veterans. Thank you also for your donations to The Center through their Amazon.com Wish List, and Stone Bridge Health & Rehabilitation Center.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

Our December 19, 2024 Meeting Minutes were approved by a motion from Joan Lavery, and seconded by Marie Sturdevant and Judy Rosentel. There were no questions and the minutes were unanimously approved.

\*Marie Sturdevant introduced our guest speaker today, Trent McCann, Executive Director of The Newtown Forest Association.

\*Marie also reminded us of the upcoming book signing featuring Valerie Taylor with her book, *A Whale of a Murder*. Join us at Barberie's Black Angus in Danbury on Saturday, February 22nd from 12:00 to 2:00pm. The cost for the luncheon is \$25.00.

*Continued...*

...Continued

\*Our Gold and Silver fundraiser takes place on April 11th and 12th, from 10:00am to 4:00pm in the Gathering Room at Booth Library. Turn in your no-longer-needed gold and silver jewelry and trinkets for cash! (Actually, you will receive a check!) Tell your family, friends, and neighbors!

\*Rosemary Rau showed us at-shirt from the local Turkey Trot with our club logo on the back!

\*Our 50/50 raffle netted \$52.00.

President Rosemary Rau adjourned the meeting at 12:28pm.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Pat Lowell, Recording Secretary*

#### **CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH:**

*Pat Lowell*

The Vet Center, Danbury, has reached out to us for help with their 50th National Vietnam Veterans Day Commemorative Celebration, taking place on Thursday, March 27th from 11am to 1pm. They are also asking for our help to set up tables the day before, Wednesday, March 26th. If committee members and others are able to stay for a few minutes after our February meeting, I will have more information to share.

Also, the new Director of Therapeutic Recreation at Stone Bridge, Frances Hernandez, is starting a knitting group, and she is asking for donations of yarn and knitting needles.

#### **FINANCE COMMITTEE:** *Alice Horahan*



You will find a sheet in the red folders for you to offer suggestions of organizations to be considered for our Club's donations this year. The Finance Committee will work with your suggestions to prepare a ballot, and we will vote at the March meeting.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

*Dolores Judge*

### **NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION**

Wednesday, February 12th, snow date Thursday February 13th, 1:00 pm-3:00 pm in the Gathering Room of CH Booth Library.

Club officers and Committee Chairmen will explain what their committees do and answer questions of how you can help and become more involved in NWC. Bring your **RED BOOK**, it contains much information. Please call or email Dolores Judge to reserve a seat by Monday, February 10th.



*New Member, Seelena Genna and  
Membership Chair Dolores Judge*

Please send Judy any information or photos for the website and/or Facebook. Check out our website: <http://www.nwc-gfwc.org/>.

**The next newsletter  
deadline is March 6, 2025**

## KNITTING:

*Janet Stockalis*

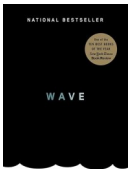


A group of friendly women who volunteer their time and talent to do good for many deserving people. We meet the first Tuesday of every month from September to May at the Booth Library. 1pm - 3pm. We knit baby hats and blankets for Pediatric and Nursery babies, hats and scarves for Veterans, homeless and local food pantries and the Newtown Police Dept. giving tree.

New members are always welcome. Yarn, needles, crochet hooks and patterns are provided. Even if you never knitted or crocheted, there are people who will help you learn or refresh you. Simple projects, no pressure and a friendly time together. Please join us in this worthwhile endeavor!

## BELLES, BOOKS AND CANDLES:

*Joan Lavery*



The book for this month is *Wave* by Somali Deraniyagala.

If you would like to lead the discussion or remember suggesting this book please call me at 426-3923.

We will continue to meet in the Library as that is what the group voted on. We will be there Thursday Feb.27th at 1:00. Looking forward to seeing all you beautiful people.

- **Feb** "Wave: A Memoir" by Somali Deraniyagala
- **Mar** "One of Windsor: The Untold Story of America's First Witch Hanging" By Beth Caruso
- **April** "Blue Dahlia" by Nora Roberts
- **May** "The Women" by Kristin Hannah

## INTERNATIONAL:

*Jeanne Braude-Magi*

### Heifer International:

*Alice Horahan*



Our quarter container is starting to fill up. We'll soon be able to provide protein and nourishment for the women and their families that we help.

## HEALTH AND WELNESS

*Jan Happel*

### Preventative Medicine

*Marcia Cavanaugh*

*Reduce Risks of Breast Cancer  
Personalized Lifestyle Steps*

#### 1. Exercise regularly

Moderate intensity exercise for 150 to 300 minutes a week

#### 2. Eat a plant based diet

Fruits, vegetables, whole grains and legumes, nuts, seeds and avocados.

Cook with olive oil and avoid red meats

#### 3. Maintain a healthy weight

A waist circumference over 35 inches is associated with increased cancer risk. Losing as few as 4.5 lbs and keeping it off, can reduce significantly risk of cancer

#### 4. De-prioritize alcohol

Keep your intake to no more than 3 drinks a week or no more than 1 a day

#### 5. Don't smoke or vape

Quitting these habits substantially improves your odds of living longer.

*~Mayo Clinic Health Letter*



# TREASURER'S REPORT 06/01/2024 - 01/31/2025

Peg Forbell - Treasurer

BALANCE ON HAND AT BEGINNING OF PERIOD			5/31/24	1,594.33
	BUDGET		FUNDRAISING	
CASH RECEIVED:				
CHRISTMAS BASKET INCOME			445.00	
CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH (BOTTLES)				
CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH (ST JUDE)	530.00			
HOSPITALITY - LUNCHEON PAYMENTS	5,609.00			
INTEREST INCOME	4.22			
MEMBERSHIP-DUES, APPLICATIONS, NAME TAGS	2,222.00			
OPERATING INCOME - 50/50, RAFFLES, SALES	596.00			
WAYS & MEANS - RAU ORNAMENTS			25.00	
WAYS & MEANS - ORNAMENTS			6,360.00	
WAYS & MEANS - DONATIONS			150.00	
WAYS & MEANS - BOO BOXES			200.00	
TOTAL RECEIPTS:	8,961.22		7,180.00	16,141.22
DISBURSEMENTS:				
CARING FRIENDS				
CHRISTMAS BASKET EXPENSE			445.00	
CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH (HEIFER)				
CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH (ST JUDE)	530.00			
COMMUNITY DONATIONS			150.00	
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY - BOX RENT	236.00			
FEDERATION DUES	900.00			
FUNDRAISING EXPENSE - ORNAMENTS			2,863.06	
HOSPITALITY - LUNCHEON COSTS	4,914.41			
INCORPORATION FEE	50.00			
INSURANCE	125.91			
PROGRAM EXPENSE	140.00			
TREASURER	14.60			
VETERANS	154.04			
WEBSITE				
YEARBOOK	189.44			
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	7,254.40		3,458.06	10,712.46
BALANCE AT END OF REPORTING PERIOD			1/31/2025	7,023.09

## Birthday's



### February

Lisa Walsh 7  
 Lisa Goosman 8  
 Dot O'Byrne 11

### March

Jan Happel 5  
 Joyce Webster 5  
 Mary Ann Magee 14  
 Jean Braude-Magi 19