



Torrance Woman's Club

1422 Engracia Avenue, Torrance, CA 90501

310-533-9116



Member

General Federation of Women's Clubs - California Federation of Women's Clubs - Marina District

Serving the Community Since 1921 – 501(c)(3) Tax ID: EIN 33-0249000 - Torrancewomansclub1921@gmail.com

President-Lynn Robinson, 1st VP-Carolyn Pohlner, 2nd VP-Janice Petrosino, 3rd VP-Janet Payne, Recording Secretary- Betty Robertson, Corresponding Secretary-Deanna Hanson, Treasurer-Sharon Broadbent, Auditor-Lynda Myers, Ways and Means-Open, Program-Carolyn Pohlner, Press-Pam Ament, Yearbook-Open, Newsletter- Carol Woods, Reservation-Susan Warner, Parliamentarian-Open, Historian-Open, Directors- Lee Large/Fran Day, Technology-Mary Alessandra-Cook

DECEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Lynn Robinson

Happy Holidays everyone! Can you believe they're here already. You can see by our calendar that this is a busy month. In addition to what is on the calendar we are also have the outside of the windows painted on Dec. 6th and having the building tented for termites on Dec. 26th.

I look forward to seeing all the table decorations at the December meeting. Our ladies are always so clever.

Remember that your volunteer hours are due to Carolyn by January 5th. See her article for details.

Craft Contest Entries are due to Bette Herbst at the January meeting. Creative writing contest entries are due to Anita Dinicola at the January meeting. Photography contest entries are due to Irma Chiota at the March meeting. Remember all contest entries must have been created during the 2023 calendar year.

Be sure to look for the Torrance float "The Lyrical Call of Nature" on January 1st!



Holiday Party

Wednesday, December 13th

11:00 a.m.



There will be food, wine, a cookie exchange and a gift exchange.

Bring One dozen cookies (they don't have to be homemade) and a container to take cookies home in

Also bring a wrapped \$10.00 gift.

RSVP to Lynn by Thursday Dec. 7th



Things To Bring In December

Meeting Dec. 6

Food for food drive
Toy for toy drive

Party Dec. 13

Wrapped Gift \$10.00 value
For gift exchange
One dozen cookies (they don't have to be homemade)
Container to take cookies home in.

RESERVATIONS

Susan Warner

Reservation due date is Thursday, December 30th. The reservation fee of \$20.00 will remain the same, paid at the door when you arrive. If you do make a reservation and are unable to attend, we kindly request that you be responsible for the fee and notify our treasurer Sharon Broadbent. Please make your reservation with Susan Warner.

Telephone (310) 534-4092

Or

E-mail luvsapanda1@aol.com

Reservations need to be made the Thursday before each monthly general meeting. Looking forward to seeing all of our incredible TWC ladies each month.

DECEMBER CALENDAR

Nov. 30	Reservation deadline for Dec. 6 th meeting
Dec. 2, 1 p.m.	Memorial for Mary Linn Coleman
Dec. 5, 10 a.m.	Set up for tomorrow's meeting
Dec. 6	General meeting
10 a.m.	Social Hour
11 a.m.	Business Meeting
12 p.m.	Lunch & Program
	Torrance Civic Chorale
Dec. 13 11 a.m.	Christmas Party
Dec. 15	Newsletter articles due
Dec. 20	NO Helping Hands
Dec. 27, 10 a.m.	Board Meeting- Zoom
Dec. 28	Reservation for Jan. 3 rd meeting



MARINA DISTRICT CALDENDAR

Dec. 8, 10 a.m. Marina District Board Meeting

NEWS FROM THE TREASURER

Sharon Broadbent

Thank you to everyone for your generous contributions to our fundraising efforts.

Raffle proceeds for September was \$191, October was \$174, and profit from the November holiday boutique was \$1119.50.



We will have another raffle at the December meeting. We will not be having a boutique. No need to bring anything just--your money to participate. Great prizes will be awarded!



HOSPITALITY

Lois Koza

Ladies, thank you to all who signed up to decorate a table for our meeting on Wednesday December 6th. Your set up time is Tuesday, December 5th at 10:00 a.m. or Wednesday, December 6th before the start of the meeting. at 11.

Green tablecloths, red napkins and a closet full of decorations for your convenience!

I am looking forward to seeing our club house turned into a gorgeous and festive "Holiday Room"!

Think about "set-up volunteering" for any of our future meetings January-June, 2024 meetings - setting up, decorating and cleanup - clipboard will be on the back table!

Thank you!"

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

3	Anita Dinicola
8	Gina Radocchio
11	Joan Earhart
19	Lea Lea Sands
30	Claudine Lyon

Happy Birthday



CITY OF TORRANCE COMMISSION ON AGING

Hello Ladies

You are invited to attend the monthly meetings of the Commission on Aging.

The meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month in the Commission Meeting room in the West Annex building (3031 Torrance Blvd.), which is located next door to the City Hall.

The next meeting of the Commission on Aging is scheduled for Tuesday, December 5th, at 9:30 am.

This meeting will feature Michele Nadeau, Outreach and Volunteer Coordinator for 1736 Family Crisis Center.

We hope that you can attend.

At our November 7th meeting we had a very informative presentation by Ujjwala Dheeriya, M.D., Medical Director and Kristel Quinto MSW, LCSW, Program Director of the Torrance Memorial Palliative Care Program.

They informed us that Palliative Care is specialized medical care for people living with a serious illness. The care is focused on providing relief from the symptoms and stress of a serious illness. The goal is to improve quality of life for both the patient and the caregiver/family. Palliative Care can be provided as a hospital inpatient, outpatient or in the home.

For more information about the Palliative Care Program, you can call 310-784-4880 or visit TorranceMemorial.org/palliativecare.

*Mary Hileman, TWC Member
Commissioner, Commission on Aging*

1st VP – DEAN OF CHAIRMEN

Carolyn Pohlner

Advocates for Children -- Food Drive

Thanks to the generosity of our members, the Volunteer Center picked up 119 food items at the November General Meeting. Special thanks to Lois Koza, who once again, counted them all! Ladies, let's keep up the good work and don't forget to bring your food donation to the December General Meeting. Pasta, sauce, PB&J, cereal, canned meat and fruit are the most urgent needs this year. If you're feeling in a festive partying mood, consider adding a box of cake mix or a couple boxes of Jello to your donation!

The "Socktober" collection came to an end with **90** pairs of adult socks for the El Camino socks for the DCFS offices in Culver City, where they are needed most.

Toy Drive

The holidays are fast approaching. We have a wonderful opportunity to brighten a child's Christmas. The Torrance Woman's Club will be collecting unwrapped toys at our December 6th General Meeting. The toys collected will be donated to the Torrance Fire and Police Department Holiday Toy Drive. The Torrance area recipient families have been vetted by the Fire and Police Departments. Your generosity and kindness are greatly appreciated. Happy Holidays!

From Ellen Jenkins, Toy Drive Chair

Arts and Crafts

For those of you who donate materials for our "Helping Hands" Huggy Bears, here's a heads up that Joann Fabrics is offering to donate \$1.50/yard for every yard purchased of fabric designed by St. Jude's children patients - what a great way to help out St. Jude's and Helping Hands! This is what we call a "double-duty donation"!

Civic Engagement & Outreach—Military

I shipped 8 crocheted scarves and 82 handmade "Thank You" cards to the Operation Gratitude headquarters for their Holiday Care Packages.

Community--Torrance Memorial Medical Center's Annual Holiday Festival (formerly known as "Festival of Trees") will take place Nov 28- Dec 3. Seniors have 2 days to attend for Free – Nov 29th & 30th from 10-2pm. Otherwise, General Admission is only \$5.00. Enjoy beautifully decorated trees, a fabulous Boutique, the Food Court and local entertainment! Our very own Janice Petrosino and newest member, Carolyn Snyder, have been hard at work for months preparing for this event. Several of our TWC Club members have volunteered to decorate some of the trees – so why not treat yourself and come check out their creative artistry!

Still looking for more Holiday entertainment – then you might want to visit the **Banning House** in Wilmington at 401 East M Street. Dec 2nd is their **annual "Victorian Christmas"** event - 10-4pm, FREE to the public. House tours, free crafts and refreshments, horse-drawn trolley rides, Santa Claus, caroling and dancing

Fundraising

The See's Candy Fundraiser profited ~\$450 for our Clubhouse Preservation fund. A BIG "Thank You" to all who participated! I will be delivering 13 boxes of Lollipops to the USO Center at the airport before Thanksgiving. Won't that help make the troops happy who file through LAX during the upcoming Holiday season?!

Health & Wellness

After October's General Meeting, I picked up notecards left on the tables for "Girls Love Mail". I took a moment to read some of them and was really moved by the heartfelt sentiments written by our members. Ladies, I would feel very special and comforted to receive any of those cards and I'll bet any of the women who receive our small contribution will probably feel the same. Thank You for taking the time to write a card and in some instances, some of you wrote more than one. A double Thank You

Education and Libraries

Did you know the Torrance Public Library has parking passes that let you into most California State Parks – FOR FREE?

The most powerful card you have, your TORRANCE PUBLIC LIBRARY CARD, is all

you need to pick up one of the California State Park passes at any of the six Torrance Public Libraries. The pass will allow you to park free at most of **California's beautiful and historic State Parks**.

When you pick up your pass, don't forget to also check out a **California State Park** backpack filled with things like binoculars, field guides, and other resources to help you enjoy your time in some of California's most amazing areas. For more information and a list of participating parks visit **California State Library Parks Pass Participating and Nonparticipating Parks**.

Don't have a Torrance Public Library card? Apply online at **www.Library.TorranceCA.Gov**



BROWN BAG AUCTION

Betty Robertson and Annette Degner.

Hello ladies.

The Brown Bag auction is back and will take place at our January meeting. Please bring any new or gently used items to the Clubhouse on January 2, 2024, between 10:00 and 11:00. If that is not possible, please bring them early on the day of our meeting, January 3, 2024. No need to price your items as it is an auction. You purchase your tickets at the meeting and place your tickets in the bag closest to the treasure you are hoping to win. And you might be the lucky winner. It will be so much fun! Thank you in advance for your participation and cooperation.

VOLUNTEERS

Because I will not be here for the December or January General Meetings, I am going to remind all Board Officers and Committee members **NOW** to please complete their Volunteer Hours Report (form attached at the end of this Newsletter) and email or snail mail it to me no later than January 5th. For newer members, if you worked or attended any activity for the Torrance



Woman's Club this past year – January 1st through December 31st – please report your hours to me. Also, report any donations you may have contributed (other than the See's Fundraiser). Remember, if you donated a Gift Basket or a Gift Card for the Silent Auction at the Fashion Show – that counts. If you donated material for "Helping Hands", I want to hear about it. Report the full price of the item – not the sale price. Hildegard has recorded any hours you spent at the Clubhouse, working on projects, BUT if you worked at home on the Huggy Bears, Tied Fleece Blankets, Turtle Pillows, Greeting Cards, or scarves for the troops – Hildegard won't have those hours and you'll need to summarize them. Don't forget those prep hours – driving to and from meetings, setting up, writing newsletter articles, any phone calls you made on behalf of TWC, etc. WHY, you might ask? Good Question! The clubs submit reports to their Districts, who in turn, forward them onto the State where they are compiled with all the other 19 Districts, and this report is shared with the General Federation at the national level, who share all our data with different types of government agencies, including the U.S Congress. OUR voices and actions do make a difference. Ladies, don't think for one minute what we do here in little ole' Torrance doesn't matter – legislation is passed based on our findings. It is my goal this year, to share all TWC's Annual Reports with you, the Members who did the work, so that you can read for yourselves how awesome we really are I want to wish you all a Happy, Healthy Thanksgiving!

PROGRAMS

Our December Program is focused on you, our members. President Lynn Robinson is going to make every effort to try to curtail the Business portion of our meeting to just the bare essentials, so that you all can enjoy the festive Holiday atmosphere and spend more time with each other.

Socialize, have a glass of Merry, and enjoy a leisurely lunch of ham (subject to availability), Mac n' Cheese, Dutchess Potatoes and Vegetable, prepared by our Catering Manager, Richard Brice. Then sit back, relax and listen to some "*nostalgic songs of the Season*" from the Torrance Civic Chorale. Under the artistic direction of conductor Dr. Ed Trimis and longtime accompanist Diana Brownson, and featuring one of our very own TWC

members, Charle Sappington, the Chorale has been entertaining South Bay audiences since 1961! Perhaps, they will stir you up enough to join in with them on a Christmas carol or two!

And if their performance today leaves you wanting more, be sure to take in their concert, "A Winter Holiday", Friday evening, Dec 8th, 7:30pm at the James Armstrong Theater, with special guests, the North High School Hi-Lite Choir.

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah,
and Happy New Year!

Carolyn Pohlner, Programs Chair

DAY OF COMMUNITY SERVICE AT THE LOS ANGELES REGIONAL FOOD BANK

On Saturday, October 28th, The Torrance Woman's Club Family and Friends Team, in conjunction with the Woman's Club of Redondo Beach and South Bay Junior Women's Club, trekked to the LA Regional Food in the City of Industry for a day of community service assembling boxes of food donations. Seventeen volunteers in total from our team, with other community and business teams, worked a conveyor assembly line of food stations from 9AM to 1PM with a lot of spirit and enthusiasm. There were close to twenty-five items in each box- food items such as canned veggies, canned salmon, juice bottles, shelf stable milk, cereal, beans, and the list goes on. The completed boxes were made into pallets to be given out at distribution points. We celebrated a successful event with a total of **3,682** completed boxes of food for hungry children and seniors in the LA community. Way to go team, best team ever!





HALLOWEEN FUN



This group met the day before Halloween and decorated cookies. Just for fun!



HEALTH AND WELLNESS

LOIS FITZHUGH, CFWC Chair
Quick Bytes, Nov 13, 2023

Your time could be cut short by RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS, or RSV. RSV is a contagious virus that usually causes mild symptoms but can severely affect the lungs and respiratory airways in older adults.

Adults aged 60 and older are at risk for severe RSV infections that may lead to Hospitalizations. Adults with certain underlying conditions like asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and congestive heart failure (CHF) are also at increased risk of hospitalizations from RSV infections.

PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST **INFORMATION**

Irma Chioti

Here is the basic information for the upcoming photography contest. Forms will be included in the next newsletter or you will be able to find them on our website. Photos are due to the TWC Chairman (me) at the March Club Meeting or bring them to the Marina District Meeting in March.

There are two main categories for the photography contest:

I. THE WORLD IN PICTURES: These photographs showcase the people, places, and things at home and around the world that impact our lives in a meaningful way, as expressed in these three categories:

a. Our World Up Close—Create a visual that offers a novel viewpoint or a macro image that takes the viewer into a whole new, tiny world.

b. Natural Wonders—Use wide angles and panoramas, or moody landscape images, to showcase mountains, meadows, sandhills, rivers, waterfalls, oceans, deserts, or any other magnificent vista.

c. Reflections—Feature a setting, situation, or landmark that brings back poignant memories, or capture a fleeting image reflected in glass, water, or another mirrored surface.

II. GFWC LIVING THE VOLUNTEER SPIRIT:

These photographs capture the special moments in the lives of GFWC clubwomen as they meet, plan, advocate, volunteer, or celebrate, in groups or one-on-one.

RULES FOR PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST:

- Photographs must be the original work of the member submitting the photograph;
- All contest photographers must be dues paying members of an active GFWC Club; o Exception: CFWC will be judging Student Photography at the state level (however, GFWC does not have this category at the international level);
- Photographs must be taken between January 1, 2023 and December 31, 2023 • Contestants must be considered an amateur photographer;



CRAFT CONTEST

Bette Herbst

This contest is for all clubs in the Marina District and entries will be judged at the January 19th District Council Meeting to be held at the El Segundo Club House.

Now is the time to prepare your entry. You may enter one item in each category. Entry forms will be available at the December TWC meeting.

Plan to enter as it always is such a pleasure to see what members make!

The categories are:

- Machine Quilting
- Hand Quilting
- Apparel Sewing
- Knitting
- Crocheting
- Embroidery
- Trash to Treasure
- Other Needlework
- Counted Cross-stitch
- Weaving
- Sculpture
- Glass
- General Craft

TECHNOLOGY CHAIR IN THE CORNER

Mary Alessandra-Cook

With the 2023 Holiday season upon us, please watch out for the Top 5 technology scams that seem to be targeting seniors the most.

Phishing & Spoofing: Watch out for deceptive emails or texts posing as legitimate companies, asking for personal information or urgent actions. Verify sources before clicking links or sharing details. Do not hesitate to pick up the phone to call your bank or the company directly and never reply directly to such kinds of emails. Look up the phone numbers independently and do not assume that a phone number in an email is legitimate.

Tech Support Scams: Be cautious of unsolicited calls claiming to be tech support. Fraudsters may request access to devices or payment for non-existent services. Authentic companies won't ask for sensitive details or payment upfront.

Social Media Scams: Seniors should stay vigilant against social media schemes like fake giveaways, fraudulent ads, or friend requests from unknown accounts. Avoid sharing personal information or clicking suspicious links. Be cautious about Go Fund Me and other requests for money through social media.

Fake Charities & Donation Scams: During the holiday season, fake charities often surface. Verify the legitimacy of organizations before donating. Scammers exploit emotions, urging quick contributions without proper verification.

Fake Shopping Websites: This one concerns me the most right now as I saw in a tech article that scammers have started making fake websites that look just like legitimate brands like Macy's and Best Buy. The key takeaway is that everyone should be wary of unfamiliar online retailers offering incredible deals. If everything is discounted or if pop ups are asking for money before you checkout, be wary. Ensure the website is secure (look for HTTPS and a padlock symbol) and check reviews before making purchases. Watch out for unusual payment methods or unrealistic discounts.

Your best lines of defense in these situations are always to stay informed, verify sources and do not be hesitant to seek help from family or trusted individuals to avoid falling victim to these prevalent technology scams during the holiday season.

Happy Holidays!

PICTURES FROM OCTOBER MEETING



**Mary, TWC 's Tech Wizard,
demonstrating.
a High Tech screen.**



**119 Food Bank Items were collected and
donated to the Torrance Volunteer Center**



**Gina, Advocate for Children Chairman,
explaining Christmas project for DCFS
children and families.**



Susan and Deanna at sign in table.



Irma's donation - Halloween cupcakes.



More items for sale

**Goodies for purchase at
November Xmas Boutique.**



Judy doing her holiday shopping.



**Our work-a-bees, Bette, Sharon and
Annette.**

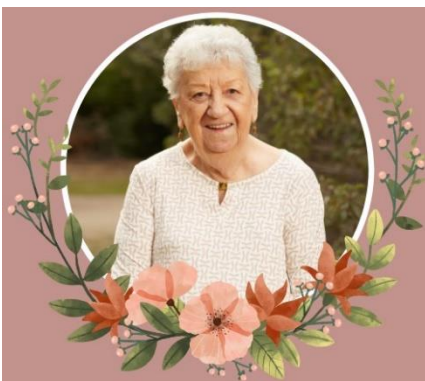


Pictures of craft items and baked goods at the November bazaar generating funds for TWC.

Pictures by Hildegard Graber and Irma Chiota.

IN MEMORY OF

Mary Linn Coleman



Madonna Davenport

