

# The Woman's Club of Olympia JOURNAL



April 2026 Edition

## PLANNER

### NEXT MEETINGS

#### General Membership,

April 7, 2026 at noon  
Program: Senior Services

#### Evening Group—

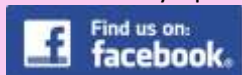
6:30 Social -- 7:00 meeting  
April 8, 2026  
Program: Eli Sterling, founder  
of Procession of the Species

#### **Contact Woman's Club of Olympia**

1002 Washington Street SE  
Olympia, Washington 98501-1352  
(360) 753-9921



Website:  
[www.womansclubofolympia.org](http://www.womansclubofolympia.org)



Search Facebook for:  
Abigail Stuart House-Woman's Club of Olympia



NEWSLETTER EDITOR

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The past month has been a challenging one for me. I was busy with meetings, was installed as the new President of the Peninsula District of Women's Clubs, and have been overseeing projects and personal endeavors. Lately I was diagnosed with pneumonia and am recovering. All will be well and as I wind down this current administration at The Woman's Club of Olympia, there is a new slate of officers standing at the ready to take over.

There are some great opportunities coming up in April and May for volunteering and helping the Woman's Club at events to promote our work. The Olympia Arts Walk on April 24 and 25<sup>th</sup> and the Thurston County Chamber "Business After Hours" on April 16<sup>th</sup>. Please sign up to help at one or both of these events. We need you!!

Sandra Groves, President

## EVENING MEETING UPDATE

On March 11<sup>th</sup>, the Evening group participated in a class on Ecopsychology and it was really good and the meeting was well attended. The next Meeting will meet at 6:30 p.m. for a social time and meeting begins at 7:00 pm at the Clubhouse on April 8<sup>th</sup> with Eli Sterling, founder of the Procession of the Species parade.



## SOCK COUNT

**The latest sock count is 308!** Any new socks can be donated to reach our goal this year of 500. We always reach our goal.



## NEW MEMBER TO WCO

We will initiate a new member at the April meeting. Her name is Sheila Lewallen. Welcome her at the meeting.



We added 16 new members in 2025-2026! We ran out of membership books at the last meeting (we have had many new members join since they were printed last summer) so we will provide a sheet at the April meeting to anyone who needs member information.

## The Woman's Club of Olympia General Membership Meeting Minutes March 3, 2026

Meeting was called to order at 12:00 by President Sandra Groves. The Collect and the Pledge of Allegiance were recited.

The following guests were welcomed and recognized: Shelia Lewallen, Natalia ?, Lynda Zeman and Sheri Young.

Happy March birthdays to: Pat Booth and Carol Ballard.

A motion was made to accept the minutes of the last meeting. The motion was seconded and approved.

**Treasurers Report:** Balance sheets were available and placed on tables. The club is doing well and moving into the black. Emphasis was placed on the renting of the house to continue to provide income. It was repeated that the highest profit event was that of the Chocolate/Bingo, raising a total of \$3276.

**New Member Initiation:** Sybil Goodkin invited Lynda Zeman to come forward for the initiation process, to share a bit about herself and to sign her name into the Membership Book.

**March Member of the Month:** Dani Lewis was recognized for her unending service to the organization. She was recognized as a member who always says "yes" when a need arises.

**March Program:** Luellen Charneski presented an overview of the Play which provided a glimpse into the early history of an Olympia Woman's Club members meeting. She highlighted that the play was first performed in 1954, that there were photos in the parlor of the characters represented in today's play. This particular play was also presented in 2012. Club members participating in the play were introduced. The following topics/elements/insights stood out during the play 1.) the importance for women to on time 2) Parliamentary procedures which referenced Roberts Rule of Order. 3) How do distinguish a conversation from a motion. 4) How to increase membership. 5) How to receive new members. Should it be by application of invitation? 6) Qualifications for membership were identified as honesty, intelligence and good moral character. 7) How to reject a member. 8) Topics were presented for further meetings, one of which was whether or not to have a woman physician from California provide the club members with a lecture and how to validate that person as legitimate, since there were so few women doctors at that time. 9) Early in its history the Woman's Club was a Social Club, with a focus on self- improvement.

As the play ended archive articles were shown to the group. Minutes that were written throughout the history of the club showed that over time the organization moved from domestic issues toward more intellectual topics.

Providers of today's refreshments: Gloria Pardo, Sybil Goodkin and Susan Herring. Thank you's were extended.

**Nominated Committee Report:** The following members were recognized by the Nominating Committee and the office they are running for identified

- President – Anna McKinney
- Vice President – Sarah Ketter
- Secretary. – Denise Weir
- Treasurer – Denise Kinney
- House Chair – Barbara Pugliese
- Evening Program Coordinator – Paige Porter
- Scholarship Committee – Debbie Weir, Patty Mitchell, with Sybil Goodkin agreeing to become the 3<sup>rd</sup> person
- The librarian position is still open with Anita Quintana and Barbara Pugliese agreeing to stay on for now.

**Announcements:**

- A memorial service will be held for Dody Saeger from 1-3 Tumwater at Mills and Mills on March 21<sup>st</sup>.
- March 8, here at the Abigail House, International Woman's Celebration will take place from 1-3 with guest speaker Mariam Dembele discussing the Woman's Dignity School in Mali.
- Wednesday night, March 11<sup>th</sup> is the evening meeting. The topic is Ecopsychology. Time: 7-8 pm
- March 14 at the VFW in Sumner. Peninsula District Meeting will install its new officers of which Sandra Groves is president. The event begins at 9:30 and ends around 3:00. Members are encouraged to attend.
- Authors Event to be held at the Abigail House March 15 from 2-4. Books on sale and signed by the authors.
- March 27 @ 7:30 and March 28<sup>th</sup> @ 2:30, members are invited to attend the Capitol City Chorus at Capitol High School. The event is free with donations welcomed.
- Chamber of Commerce After Hours will be held at the Abigail House on April 16, 5:00 – 7:00
- Spring Arts Walk – April 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> here at the Abigail House. Help is needed for table setting and baked items. Contact Nancy Broach 360-259-5518
- May 2 Linda Wolfe will be presented with the Exceptional Woman of Thurston County award by the Soroptimist International Organization, a group focused on making sure women and girls have the resources and opportunities to reach their full potential and live their dreams. Congratulations, Linda! She also reminded members of the opportunity they have to bag food from 1-3 at the Columbia Bank Building behind Fred Meyer in Lacey.
- Paws for a Cause – May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Susan Herring. Donations welcomed and perhaps the Woman's Club could put a basket together to sell at the event. Time: 11-3. Location: Heritage Park at Capitol Lake, 701 Water St SW. Procedures go to the American Cancer Society and the Animal Cancer Foundation. The event features vendors, contests, and auctions.
- Mary Siddell went over reporting/volunteer form suggesting activities to count such as attendance at the coffee klatch, gardening, exercising – include type please, tea service, time spent on scholarship committee, attendance at the evening meetings, etc.
- Dani Lewis was thanked for all the Valentine cards she created and delivered to Crystal Cove and

Raffle Winner: Luellen Charneski

Meeting adjourned: 1:40

Patty Mitchell, Secretary

## THURSTON COUNTY CHAMBER EVENT AT ABIGAIL STUART HOUSE



As members of the Thurston County Chamber, The Woman's Club will be hosting a "Business After Hours" event on April 16. The event is a mixer and will be attended by many other Chamber members. This is an opportunity to show off the house and market it to the Community. More information will be forthcoming on this event next month.

## ELECTIONS TO BE HELD AT APRIL MEETING

The new slate of officers for 2026-2028 will be elected at the April meeting. Those nominated are as follows:



- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| President:      | Anna McKinney                                      |
| Vice President: | Sarah Ketter                                       |
| Secretary:      | Deborah Weir                                       |
| Treasurer:      | Denise Kinney                                      |
| House Chair:    | Barbara Pugliese                                   |
| Librarian:      | Sandra Groves                                      |
| Scholarship:    | Sybil Goodkin (takes position #3 on the Committee) |

The newly elected officers will be installed at the May meeting and take office at the June meeting.



## AUTHOR EVENT SUCCESSFUL

Our Afternoon with two authors was a success as Janine Gates and Larry Fowler talked about their books, writing, and answered questions from attendees. These type of events are important to our club since The Woman's Club of Olympia started the first library in Olympia and we have a rich history in this field.

# PENINSULA DISTRICT CONFERENCE

The GFWC-WS Peninsula District Spring Conference was held in Sumner and awards were presented to clubs based on reports provided. The new administration of officers were elected and two are from our very own Woman's Club of Olympia – Sandra Groves as President and Anna McKinney as Treasurer. The District is composed of 9 Puget Sound area clubs from Bremerton and Kitsap County to Puyallup, Tacoma, Chambers Bay, Lacey and Olympia. The District provides an opportunity for clubs to connect, share ideas, and socialize with like-minded members.



*Baby Shower items collected for shelter*



*Sandra Groves installed by Past International President Carlene Garner*



*Linda Wolfe proud winner of raffle garden basket*



*First Time Attendees honored with gifts*



*WCO awarded certificate*





# SPRING ARTS WALK

at The  
**ABIGAIL  
STUART HOUSE**

1002 WASHINGTON ST SE  
JUST UP FROM SYLVESTER PARK



FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 5-8:30 pm  
SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 12-6 pm

## CELEBRATION OF ARTISTS

FINE ART, TANGO LESSONS &  
PERFORMANCES, DEMOS,  
SNACKS AND A PLACE TO SIT  
AND RELAX COMFORTABLY  
IN THE HISTORIC ABIGAIL  
STUART HOUSE



WATERCOLOR, WOOD ART, FORAGED COLLAGE,  
DANCE, POETRY READINGS, MUSIC,  
STUDENT ART AND MORE!

## JOINT ANIMAL SERVICES WISH LIST

At a recent meeting we had a representative from Joint Animal Services. Here is the wish list for items they are looking for. If you would like to donate, please bring items to the May meeting and they will be delivered.

### Pet Food

- Dog dry food (Purina Pro Plan or Kirkland Brand)
- Puppy wet/dry food (Purina Pro Plan or Kirkland Brand)
- Cat/Kitten dry food (Royal Canin Mother and Baby Cat, Kirkland Brand Cat and Kitten Maintenance, and Iams Kitten)
- Canned KITTEN food
- Milk replacement for kittens and pups (KMR)
- Meat baby food (no ham)

### Pet Supplies

- Clay litter, non-clumping (small bags preferred)
- Yesterday's News cat litter
- Toys and treats for cats, dogs
- Pill pockets

### Other Supplies

- Bleach
- Paper towels
- **Gift cards** to: Mud Bay, Petsmart, Petco, Walmart, Costco, The Dollar Store, etc.





## What and Who is The Woman's Club of Olympia

**HISTORY:** The Woman's Club of Olympia was founded in 1883 by Abbie Howard Hunt Stuart and eight other progressive women, six years before Washington became a state, to improve the lives of women and to serve the community. They fought illiteracy and poverty, and provided aid for children and needy families before there were public assistance programs. The Woman's Clubhouse was built in 1908 and later named for Abbie Stuart. We are a non-profit, non-denominational, non-partisan volunteer service organization. Learn more at [www.womansclubolympia.org](http://www.womansclubolympia.org).

**CLUB GOALS:** The Woman's Club of Olympia is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC), GFWC Washington State and the Peninsula District of 9 fellow clubs, volunteer community organizations that support the arts, preserve natural resources, promote education, encourage healthy lifestyles, stress civic involvement, and work toward world peace and understanding. Our current projects include:

- Fundraising and partnering to support other community non-profit organizations sharing our goals;
- College scholarships for Thurston County high school seniors based on academic success and financial need;
- All Kids Win providing food for disadvantaged high school and middle school students; and
- Preservation of the historic Abigail Stuart House, and rental of the house for community programs and organizations.

**MEETINGS:** Our daytime meetings are at noon on the first Tuesday of each month, September through June. Our evening group meets at 7:00 p.m. the second Wednesday of each month. **All meetings are held at the Abigail Stuart House at 1002 Washington Street SE, Olympia.**

**TO BECOME A MEMBER:** Attend two meetings or Club functions, fill out an application and return it with a \$10.00 application fee. After the Board approves the application you pay \$40.00 annual membership dues and will be initiated at the next meeting.

**MEMBERSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES:** Woman's Club members are expected to contribute actively by serving on at least one committee or project throughout the year. A Board Member will talk with you about your interests and availability. Also, each member who attends the daytime meetings is expected to serve on a committee to host a tea or luncheon for at least one meeting per year.

**MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS:** You have the opportunity to meet, work, and grow with other women who are interested in self and community improvement. You are part of a historical local, state and national organization making a difference in the world.

**Contact [womansclubolympia@gmail.com](mailto:womansclubolympia@gmail.com) for an application.**

**REPORTING FORM / VOLUNTEER HOURS: Name \_\_\_\_\_**

**ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN:** Hours \_\_\_\_\_ Monies \_\_\_\_\_ In Kind \_\_\_\_\_  
Description:

**ARTS & CULTURE:** Hours \_\_\_\_\_ Monies \_\_\_\_\_ In Kind \_\_\_\_\_  
Description:

**CIVIC ENGAGEMENT:** Hours \_\_\_\_\_ Monies \_\_\_\_\_ In Kind \_\_\_\_\_  
Description:

**COMMUNICATION & PR:** Hours \_\_\_\_\_ Monies \_\_\_\_\_ In Kind \_\_\_\_\_  
Description:

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:** Hours \_\_\_\_\_ Monies \_\_\_\_\_ In Kind \_\_\_\_\_  
Description:

**EDUCATION & LIBRARIES:** Hours \_\_\_\_\_ Monies \_\_\_\_\_ In Kind \_\_\_\_\_  
Description:

**ENVIRONMENT:** Hours \_\_\_\_\_ Monies \_\_\_\_\_ In Kind \_\_\_\_\_  
Description:

**HEALTH AND WELLNESS:** Hours \_\_\_\_\_ Monies \_\_\_\_\_ In Kind \_\_\_\_\_  
Description:

**LEADERSHIP:** Hours \_\_\_\_\_ Monies \_\_\_\_\_ In Kind \_\_\_\_\_  
Description:

**LEGISLATION & PUBLIC POLICY:** Hours \_\_\_\_\_ Monies \_\_\_\_\_ In Kind \_\_\_\_\_  
Description:

**WOMEN'S HISTORY:** Hours \_\_\_\_\_ Monies \_\_\_\_\_ In Kind \_\_\_\_\_  
Description: