

STONEBRIDGE EXCHANGE – MAY/JUNE 2022

Women's Club President's Message

Judith Feltz



“A woman is the full circle. Within her is the power to create, nurture and transform.”
~ Diane Mariechild

In observance of Women's History Month, writer and professional storyteller Carol Simon Levin was featured in our March program portraying women inventors whose significant contributions to society were minimalized. Women's Club members particularly savored this restriction-free evening in the Ballroom as the Hospitality Committee provided refreshments specially decorated to celebrate this St. Patrick's Day meeting.

Residents continue to be generous supporters of Women's Club undertakings, including our bi-yearly food drives. On April 6 and 7, food donations were collected at the homes of Sandie Bowen, Sandy Rubin, and Nina Tapia resulting in carloads of deliveries to the NJ-Rise Food Pantry. These contributions support the efforts of NJ-Rise in meeting the unrelenting needs of over four hundred food-insecure families on a weekly basis.

The Women's Club Trex Community Recycling Challenge officially kicked off on March 1. Residents are endorsing this project by depositing dry, clean, clear plastic into one of the Trex containers located in the Clubhouse kitchen. This plastic is then transported to a participating retail store where it is baled and sold to Trex, a world leader in the production of railing and deck items manufactured from recycled materials. Once our goal of collecting 500 pounds of plastic is achieved by September 30, Trex will construct a low-maintenance, high-performance bench for our community. Our expectations of achieving this objective have been surpassed since over 200 pounds of plastic were collected in the first month of this project!

The concept of National Volunteer Month originally debuted during World War II to recognize women who would collect supplies and help wounded soldiers. The celebrations waned after the War but the idea of acknowledging volunteers was rekindled in 1974 and became official in 1990. At our April General Membership meeting, the Women's Club honored the dedication and service of all its members who selflessly devote countless hours to help family, friends, their communities, and the world in their own way. As gratitude for their self-sacrificing volunteerism, the two hundred members in attendance received zippered purses containing manicure sets imprinted with “Volunteers Forever Appreciated.” They also enjoyed a savory appetizer buffet catered by Tuscany of Old Bridge. The menu included filet mignon crostini, chicken-on-a-stick, stuffed mushrooms, eggplant stackers, stuffed breads, zucchini roll-ups, and assorted eggrolls. To complete a perfect evening, the talented, personable and high-spirited pianist and arranger, NGXB, returned to our stage to entertain members with his virtuosic performance of originally-composed pieces.

The Women's Club has responded to the devastating humanitarian crisis in Ukraine with a contribution. Additionally, we continue to advocate the valued work of our Caring Cooks by purchasing restaurant-planned meals for families sheltered in the Ronald McDonald House.

With the resolve of our members and residents to assist our food-insecure neighbors, provide comfort to families abroad and in nearby communities via our donations, actively champion the preservation of the environment through our recycling challenge, and dedicate incalculable time and energy as volunteers, women are undeniably “the full circle” demonstrating “the power to create, nurture and transform.”

