

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

*Newtown Woman's Club*  
*Rooster*



*Ramblings*



**May 2025**



### **On This Date in History: May 15**

- 1602 Cape Cod discovered by English navigator Bartholomew Gosnold
- 1862 First baseball enclosure opens at Union Grounds, Brooklyn
- 1869 National Woman Suffrage Association forms in New York, founded by Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton
- 1918 1st regular US airmail postal service between NY, Philadelphia & Washington, D.C.
- 1928 Mickey Mouse makes his 1st ever appearance in silent film "Plane Crazy"



Newtown Woman's Club May Luncheon  
Sal e Pepe  
97 South Main Street, Newtown  
May 15, 2025

**Location:** Sal e Pepe

**Directions:** From the flagpole, take CT 25/US 6 Southeast for about 2 miles. Sal e Pepe is on the left.

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

**Date:** Thursday, May 15, 2025

**Cost:** \$35 (Please make checks payable to the Newtown Woman's Club)

**Program:** Second Annual Pin Ceremony

### May Luncheon Menu

*"Instead of past, present and future, I'd prefer chocolate, vanilla, and strawberry."  
~Ashleigh Brilliant*

- Mixed green salad

#### Main Course (pick one)

- CHICKEN PICCATA: Lemon white wine sauce with capers, Mashed potatoes and Haricot verts
- FILET OF SOLE: With Potatoes and Vegetables
- LINGUINI PRIMAVERA: House made linguini in white wine sauce with Assorted peppers
- PORK CHOP: Balsamic glaze with sweet peppers, sweet potato puree, and sautéed spinach

#### Dessert

- ICE CREAM SUNDAE

**Deadline for reservations is Saturday, May 10, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.**

*NO EXCEPTIONS will be made after that date.*

If you have any questions, please call Marie Sturdevant at 203-788-2170

**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 9

May 2025

Editor: Judy Rosentel

President:  
Rosemary Rau

Website: nwc-gfwc.org

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



Dear Members,

Thank you, one and all for your generosity, commitment and support of our volunteer efforts throughout the year.

Good hearts, good work, good friends ~ defines us.



Enjoy the Summer!

*Rosemary*

### Our Club Year in Review

**2024**

**May**

#### *Luncheon Meeting*

🌟 Membership Recognition Pin Awards

🤝 Officers Installation

🇺🇸 Liberty and Peace Monument,  
Main Street

Our ANNUAL Flags of Tribute installation accompanied by field of Family Flags ~ each flag bearing acrylic gold tag with Veteran name, rank & branch of service.

Memorial Day ~ Flag Day

**June**

🤝 Proclamation ~ GFWC Elder Abuse Prevention

🤝 Proclamation ~ GFWC National Day of Service

**August~ September**



**GFWC National Day of Service Food Drive**

**September~ December ANNUAL**



**Signature Christmas Ornament Fundraiser!**



**St. Jude Walk for Kids**

**NYA Sports & Fitness Center  
Fairfield Hills**

**October**

**Halloween Treat bags & boxes**



**Veterans Family Day event, Danbury Center**

**November**

**Return of Club Arts & Crafts Show**



**Great Room, Newtown Congregational Church**



**Newtown Turkey Trot ~ CH Booth library**

**December ANNUAL**



**Christmas Holiday Basket**

**Rocky Hill Veterans Holiday Wish List**

**2025**

**February ANNUAL**



**Valentines Day Cards for Veterans**

**Club custom designs with Chocolates  
All cards signed by Club members**

**March**



**Vietnam Veterans 50th Anniversary Day of Honor at the Danbury Center**

*Continued...*

...continued

## March ~ April ANNUAL


 Soles FOR Souls

### April

 Peg Forbell "Spontaneous Poetry"  
"Collection Celebration of Life"

 Gold -A -Thon Fundraiser!  
CH Booth library


 GFWC District Day ~ ANNUAL  
*Our Club received 5 Achievement Awards!*

 Operation Smile  
Shipment of 50 Smile Bags accompanied  
by Children's WISH LIST of needs  
(October 2024~ April 2025)

### May

*Luncheon Meeting*

 Membership Recognition Pin Awards

 Liberty and Peace, Monument,  
Main Street  
ANNUAL Flags of Tribute installation  
Memorial Day ~ Flag Day  
May ~ June

*Members MONTHLY Donations:*

Food Pantries

The Center

Stonebridge Rehab

*Member of the Month: Mary Obre* 

**Can you carry an elephant?**

No, can't carry elephants anymore ever since I got this monkey on my back!

**What's your favorite, burger or hot dog?**

Nathan's Hot Dogs - Coney Island, Brooklyn, New York - and they are the best. (I was born and raised in Brooklyn)

**If you could have one SUPER power for a day what would it be?**

If I had a super power for one day, I would love to be the doctor that finds the cure for cancer.

**A song that makes you sing along whenever you hear it.**

Several songs.....from Sound of Music....."The Hills are Alive"..... And my mother's favorite, an Irish song, "Oh Danny Boy".

**A Fond/ Fun travel story**


Last year I, with some church buddies, took our annual trip to Lancaster, PA to see the Sights and Sounds show and as part of the trip, we visited some beautiful Amish farms.

During a visit to one of these farms the owner/farmer and I were walking into the barn and he said he had a cow that needed milking and was going to ask some of the people on the tour, if they would like to milk a cow.

I laughed because I told him I have milked many a cow in my youth - my parents were immigrants from Ireland and grew up surrounded by farms. During our family stay in Ireland for many, many months I saw a cow give birth (never want to see that again).

But while we were in this farmers barn, he asked if anyone would like to milk his ole' cow. A few brave ladies did attempt to do it, but when it was my turn, I told the farmer that I would wear a cork cap on my head when I milked so I could rest the top of my head against the belly of the cow and then the cow accepted you and did not swat you with her tail or try and lift her leg to kick you..

Told the farmer that I am used to using 2 tits to milk - get a good milking rhythm that way, that poor ole' cow only offered us one tit (guess the other was bruised.) but those of us who tried milking, we got a little slip of paper from the farmer saying we milked a cow.

These trips to the Amish Country is always my favorite - cow or no cow!!!! 

**Membership Bylaws Amendments**  
**Please note the changes in red text.**

**Article III - Membership**  
**Section 5**

**\*was:** Each **regular** member **is required** to attend five meetings during the club year **and to** serve on a committee. Any member missing four meetings during the year will be reminded by the Membership Chairman.

**\*change:** Each member **shall** attend five meetings during the club year and **serve** at a minimum on one committee. Any member missing four meetings during the year shall be reminded by the Membership Chairman.

**The Following sections shall be deleted.**

**Section 6**

**Remove all text for Associate membership**

**Section 7**

**All text to be deleted**

**Sections 7 and 8 become 5 and 6 respectively.**

✨ We will have one General membership instead of regular and associate memberships, with annual dues of \$50.00 per member.

Our Board voted in favor at the May 1st meeting.

At the May 15th luncheon, a Membership vote will be taken.

*Thank you*

**Programs Committee Change**

For our 2025-26 Club year, we ask our Members to participate in the selection of programs.

With the help of 4 “guides,” Chris Dran, Barbara Bradley, Jeanne Magi and Rosemary Rau. All suggestions will be considered. Please submit by email, text or note.

The more detail, the better.

We cannot do livestock a la the Danbury Fair! 😊

There are already a few ideas in the hatching stage. 😊

**ARTS AND CULTURE**      Marcia Cavanaugh  
Michelle Rosenthal



Our club is blessed with many talented artists, crafters and a fantastic photographer who make the world a better place!

To all of you, thank you! Keep up the good work!

*Have a wonderful  
summer!*

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 September 4, 2025**

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

Greetings. Thank you for supporting our annual "keep the environment clean" program. The money we received from the refundables, as well as cash donations, will be given to the Newtown Forest Association. Unfortunately, although we had a car load of bottles, cans, etc., we did not meet our goal.

Therefore, we ask you to please bring any refundables you may have at home, in your car, etc. to our May meeting. We will be happy to dispose of them for you.



*Thank you, Evie and Millie*

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

Dear Fellow NWC Members,  
Many thanks to all of you for your generous support to the food pantries during this club year. Your contributions have made a positive impact on the lives of those who need it most.

The May donations will be delivered to The FAITH Food Pantry. As always, all food and toiletry items are so appreciated.

Stay well and have a wonderful Summer.

**CARING FRIENDS:** *Mary Obre*



This past month, on April 10th, we lost a very dear member of NWC Dot (Dottie) O'Byrne. A Sympathy Card was sent to Dot's extended family at

Dot's address on Valley View Road. Did not have any addresses for her extended family listed in her obituary, but I am sure they will get the Sympathy Card. I hope all of our members will have a wonderful happy, healthy summer.



**Memorial Day Flags**

Memorial Day Flags  
Honoring our tradition to place American Flags at the Memorial on Main Street.

We have been doing this wonderful service to our Community for so long, no one in our Club can remember when we started! What year? Anyone?

Those who wish to enjoy this task, will meet up on Friday, May 23rd at 2PM.

Together, we will place flags around the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial.

Give a call or just show up for fun and pictures.  
*Thanks, Pat Bailey*

**MEMBERSHIP:** *Dolores Judge*

**DUES ARE DUE!!**



Your dues for next year need to be paid by the end of this club year, May 31st. To be

eligible for the drawing of a paid for luncheon next year your \$50 check must be received by the May luncheon for the drawing. At the May meeting from all checks that have been received for dues for the 2025 - 2026 club year one check will be drawn and that member will receive a paid for luncheon next year. The luncheon will be determined after we know the restaurants.

Kudos to those who have already paid their dues! If you will not be at the meeting you can mail your check to me : Dolores Judge, 11 Lake Rd, Newtown, CT 06470. I will need to receive that check by May 14th. Thank you!!

**MINUTES:***Pat Lowell***Newtown Woman's Club Meeting  
MINUTES April 17, 2025**

The meeting was held at Barberie's Black Angus Restaurant, 5 Eagle Rd, Danbury, CT

President Rosemary Rau opened the meeting at 12:01pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Nancy Kennedy.

The Collect was led by Colleen Honan.

An Inspirational Message was read by Rosemary Rau.

We held a moment of silence in memory of member Dot O'Byrne who passed away on April 10, 2025.

A motion to approve the minutes of our March 20, 2025 meeting was made by Lisa Goosman and seconded by Judy Rosentel. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Our 50/50 raffle netted \$48.00.

Rosemary Rau made a special announcement regarding discussion at our March Board Meeting of a proposal to amend the Bylaws with the removal of the Associate Member category, and a proposal to instead have one General Membership for all, and \$50.00 annual dues for everyone. Additionally, a member would no longer be required to attend 5 of our 9 annual meetings, though attendance is strongly encouraged. Each member must be actively engaged in at least one committee per our club volunteer commitment to help those in need, and provide support for Newtown community programs and organizations.

Also, our Club received five awards at the Southwest District Day Meeting.

Following the meeting, our special program will be a presentation by Peg Forbell. Peg will read from her book, Spontaneous Poetry, and books will be available for purchase.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**-ARTS & CULTURE:** Marcia Cavanaugh summarized the Southwest District Day photo contest noting that entries were judged and ribbons were awarded. Rosemary Rau won second place for her photo entry.

**-CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH:** To maintain interest in our upcoming Second Annual Anniversary Pins Ceremony, Pat Lowell conducted a short quiz to engage members. Then Pat reviewed the answers to the ten questions. The winner(s) will receive prizes at our May meeting.

**-INTERNATIONAL:** Rosemary Rau announced for Jeanne Braude-Magi that our Operation Smile donations have been shipped, but we are still in need of 21 blankets.

**-FOOD PANTRY:** Chris Dran announced that our food donations today will be delivered to Hospitality Hall.

**-FINANCE:** Alice Horahan collected our ballots to decide which local charities will receive donations from NWC.

**-HOSPITALITY AND LUNCHEON:** Marie Sturdevant announced that our May 15th meeting will take place at Sal e Pepe Restaurant on Route 25, Newtown.

**-MEMBERSHIP:** Dolores Judge introduced her guest, Marjorie Cramer, and Dottie Carnes introduced her guest, Maggi Heilweil.

**-WAYS AND MEANS:** Marie Sturdevant announced that our Gold and Silver fundraiser took in \$3,700, and due to the increasing price of gold, our final tally was \$4,000!

**-CARING FRIENDS:** Mary Obre, our Caring Friends Chairwoman, and also Margot Hall are in recovery, so let's send them both get well and thinking of you cards!

President Rosemary Rau adjourned the meeting at 12:20pm.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Pat Lowell, Recording Secretary*

**\* Please wear red to our final meeting next month to both celebrate the closing of our 2024-2025 year, and our Second Annual Anniversary Pin Ceremony.**

**CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH:**

*Pat Lowell*

We will make one final delivery of your donations to Stone Bridge Rehabilitation immediately following our May 15th meeting. Please refer to the Stone Bridge Wish List for suggestions. Thank you!

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

*Alice Horahan*

Thirty-one members voted last month for charitable organizations as possible recipients of donations. Thank you for voting. The results in order are: Catherine Violet Hubbard Animal Sanctuary, Center of Empowerment and Education, Commission on Aging, Newtown Forest Association, Salvation Army, and Newtown Meeting House.

**VETERANS:**

*Sylvia Poulin*

Have a great summer and we will be putting together our plans for our Rocky Hill Christmas donations and our Secret Santa at our September meeting.



*Members at Southwest District Day*

**Message Corner**

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>

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Our caring thoughts go out to the family of Dottie O'Byrne, who passed away on April 10. She has been a NWC member since 2005.

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Please send caring thoughts to Mary Obre. She recently had surgery and is going through a tough medical journey.

\*\*\*\*\*

Please send caring thoughts to Margot Hall. She is dealing with difficult medical issues.

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This month there will be a special raffle in addition to the 50/50 raffle. The special raffle is \$5 per ticket.



*One of 5 Awards NWC Won at District Day*



**KNITTING:***Janet Stockalis*

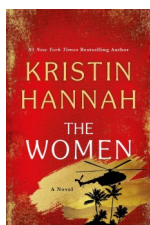
A group of friendly women who volunteer their time and talent to do good for many deserving people. We meet the first Tues-

day 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*

Thank you to all who shared in our book discussions this season. We will be missing Dot O'Bryne who was always a loyal attendee and who recently passed away.



The last meeting of the year we will be discussing "The Women" by Kristin Hannah. All are welcome to come and join us on Thursday, May 22, at 1, at the library. Please bring a book to

recommend especially if you want your voice to be heard about what we read. The criteria is that; you must have read the book and you will lead the discussion. The library requests a list 6 months in advance so we will be planning for the entire season. Blessings to all and hope to see you at the library,

**HEALTH AND WELNESS***Jan Happel***Preventative Medicine***Marcia Cavanaugh***SUNBURN**

Too much exposure to ultraviolet light (UV) by the sun, tanning beds or sunlamps cause sunburn. Sunburn increases your risk of premature aging, precancerous skin lesions and skin cancer. Deep wrinkles, dry, rough skin, freckles, dark or discolored spots, fine red veins on cheeks, nose and ears are the results of photoaging caused by the sun.

Excessive sun exposure can cause melanoma. Sunburns in childhood or adolescence may increase the risk of melanoma.

If you notice : skin growth, a sore that bleeds easily, crusts over, heals and then reopens or a change in the look of a mole you should see your doctor.

*Birthdays***May**

Karen Stern	2
Susan Norwell	8
Mary Obre	9
Coke Cramer	10
Alice Horahan	24
Judy Rosentel	29
Millie Anderson	30

**June**

Marcia Cavanaugh	6
Marg Studley	10
Betty Doty	26
Evelyn Watts	27

# TREASURER'S REPORT 06/01/2024 - 04/30/2025

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)	15.85			
CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH (OP SMILE)	80.00			
CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH (ST JUDE)	530.00			
HOSPITALITY - LUNCHEON PAYMENTS	7,506.00			
INTEREST INCOME	5.98			
MEETINGS INCOME	368.00			
MEMBERSHIP-DUES, APPLICATIONS, NAME TAGS	2,281.00			
OPERATING INCOME - 50/50, RAFFLES, SALES	784.00			
FORBELL POETRY BOOK			120.00	
WAYS & MEANS - RAU ORNAMENTS			25.00	
WAYS & MEANS - ORNAMENTS			6,360.00	
WAYS & MEANS - GOLD-A-THON			4,000.00	
WAYS & MEANS - DONATIONS			150.00	
WAYS & MEANS - BOO BOXES			200.00	
TOTAL RECEIPTS:	11,570.83		11,300.00	22,870.83
DISBURSEMENTS:				
CHRISTMAS BASKET EXPENSE			445.00	
CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH (ST. JUDE)	530.00			
CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH (SMILE)	116.25			
COMMUNITY DONATIONS			150.00	
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY - BOX RENT	242.00			
DISTRICT DAY	177.05			
FEDERATION DUES	900.00			
FUNDRAISING EXPENSE - ORNAMENTS			2,863.06	
FUNDRAISING EXPENSE - BOOK SIGNING			75.00	
GFWC PROJECTS - SHOES	11.48			
HOSPITALITY - LUNCHEON COSTS	7,077.36			
INCORPORATION FEE	50.00			
INSURANCE	125.91			
MEETINGS EXPENSE	490.00			
PINS	60.77			
PROGRAM EXPENSE	140.00			
TREASURER	57.56			
VETERANS	375.51			
YEARBOOK	189.44			
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	10,543.33		3,533.06	14,076.39
BALANCE AT END OF REPORTING PERIOD			4/30/2025	10,388.77