



La Mesa Woman's Club
 A Member of GFWC, CFWC &
 Southern District
 CA Federation of Woman's Clubs



GAVEL TALK - NOVEMBER 2020

Pat Kelly, Editor

CALENDAR OF EVENTS		BIRTHDAY CORNER
NOVEMBER Fri 6th Executive Board 9:30 am Wed 11th General Meeting via Zoom 6:30 pm	DECEMBER Fri 4th Executive Board 9:30 am	 Gertrude Findley (100th) 4th Mary Lou Kohl 27th

Presidents' Message



November Greetings!

Can you believe 2020 is drawing to a close? We have certainly experienced some historic events this year, and the month of November brings some significant dates as well. Hopefully everyone voted by November 3 and most likely the outcome will not be apparent for a while. Thanksgiving will probably look different for most of us, as we are encouraged to be cautious about gatherings. Veteran's Day is also a memorable date, and we honor all who have served in our country's wars. At our monthly Zoom general meeting, we look forward to hearing from a veteran who is also one of our members. Be sure to join us!

If you participated in our fun car caravan on November 4, then you know what a special date that was! We're including the press release prepared by Judy Burgess so you can learn more about the third one of our LMWC members to reach 100 years. Gertrude Findley joined Esther Jones and Dorothy Dixon as our current centenarians. It's true—playing bridge helps you live longer!

November 4, 2020, El Cajon, CA — Gertrude Findley, a 35 year member of the La Mesa Woman's Club, celebrated her 100th birthday. In lieu of an indoor party, club members honored her by driving by her home in a caravan of decorated cars, honking and cheering. Gertrude was born in Des Moines, Iowa to parents from Norway and Denmark. She grew up with three brothers and a sister.

Betsy Quinn and Kathy Tinsley

After graduating from high school, she worked as a bookkeeper. She met her husband Paul, who was a farmer in Grimes, Iowa. They married in 1942, and then Paul was drafted and sent to England with the Army Signal Corps. He spent the next four years working with military photographers and was assigned to photograph various concentration camps following their liberation at the end of the war.

Gertrude and Paul moved to Burbank in the 50's with their daughter, Jean Pauline McCoy. After Paul's death in 1985, Gertrude moved to El Cajon and joined the La Mesa Woman's Club. She has been an avid golfer and world traveler. She enjoys spending time with her family of two grandsons and two great-grand daughters. She keeps alert and active by playing bridge several times a month. With her elegant and sophisticated demeanor, Gertrude is a well-respected member of the La Mesa Woman's Club. Happy Birthday!



Our sincere wishes to each of you for good health, safety, and well-being. If we can be of help in any way, please let us know. Happy Thanksgiving!

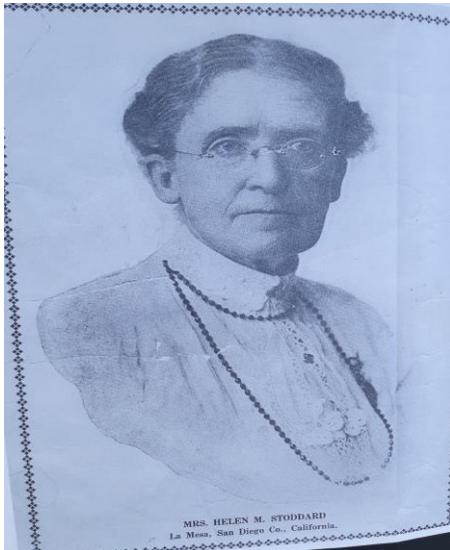
Warmly, Betsy and Kathy

I love these cooler days and nights, don't you? It feels like fall is finally here. November is Thanksgiving month. **HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO EVERYONE.**



November is also the month of our important national general elections. Thanks to Meg Thode, a member of the League of Women Voters, who provided an outstanding Zoom program for our last general meeting, I was prepared and voted early. Thanks also to Marsha for all her computer help to make this happen. As I completed my ballot, I couldn't help remembering that on November 1, 1919, California became one of the original 36 states to vote approval of the suffrage amendment bill which made it possible for the 19th Amendment to be ratified by the U.S. Congress and become part of the U.S. Constitution on August 26, 1920.

Here's some LMWC history trivia for you. Thanks to research by Veronica Martzahl from the La Mesa Historical Society, we know that Helen Stoddard, LMWC President 1910-1911, worked tirelessly writing letters and supporting the early suffrage movement. As President of LMWC, she would have encouraged members at that time to join in the support. From research of our LMWC archives by our member Jodi Van Tiegham, we know that as a community service, LMWC members registered La Mesa residents to vote. Some members even rode in horse drawn wagons to the outlying farms and ranches to register the citizen owners and workers to vote. Of course, members also educated their husbands and friends of the importance of voting and approving women's rights to vote. Let's remember and honor our early federation sisters for their valuable work.



Honor Flight San Diego

Many members voiced their desire to honor our veterans. On October 22nd, nine members met at the clubhouse to sign patriotic remembrance cards to be given to veterans on Veteran's Day, November 11. Our goal was to write a cheerful thank you and sign 100 cards. We completed 214 cards! Thank you, thank you Kathy Tinsley for delivering them to Honor Flight, the organization presenting them to each veteran attending the Veterans' Day, "Parade of Honor". Thank you, Kathy, Pat Kelly, Jean Johnston and Darcy Barghols for also donating cards. Thank you, Marsha McDonald, Lou Tuner, Betsy Quinn, Judy Burgess, Elaine Ayres, Pat Kelly, Darcy Barghols, Kathy Tinsley, and Sandi Phoenix for donating your time to sign the cards.

JOB WELL DONE!





To continue our support of veterans, our program speaker for our November 11, general meeting will be Nancy Evans-Watson. Nancy is a veteran and a member of LMWC. Please join us to honor Nancy and hear her interesting story. See Darcy’s article for details.



Holiday greetings for seniors who are served by the East County Meals on Wheels will be our November project. Following our November board meeting we will sign Holiday cards for the 350 clients of the East County Meals on Wheels. Thanks to the many cards donated by members we have more than enough for this project. It will be fun to see you all at the clubhouse at 11:30 am on Friday, November 6th. As always, we will wear masks and social distance.

In closing, I send you hugs and many happy thoughts of appreciation for supporting our community service in any way that you are able.

Sending Hugs, Sandi



On October 18th the ALS organization held its Greater San Diego Walk to Defeat ALS. Some people walked virtually. Seven members of the La Mesa Woman’s Club Team, including those pictured (1 to r) Pat Kelly, Sandi Phoenix, Betsy Quinn, Elaine Ayres, & Marsha Mc Donald, and not pictured are Chris & Reilly Quinn, walked Lake Murray. It was a beautiful morning. We saw and greeted several other ALS walk participants. Our La Mesa WC TEAM donated \$270 to ALS. Our La Mesa club donated \$50 to Nora Maxwell’s “Maxwell Movers” team. An additional \$50 of In-Kind donations was made to the “Maxwell Movers” also. Congratulations again for another successful and fun outcome for a very worthy project. I am ready to keep walking. Let’s find another purpose. See you soon, Sandi

2nd VICE PRESIDENT

Lou Turner

Welcome to Fall and much cooler weather that is certainly a welcome relief. Hopefully everyone is doing well and coping with life, as we now know it. As membership chairperson, it’s time for me to start collecting dues for 2021. Dues will remain at \$50 per person and I’ll be collecting during November and December. Because we aren’t able to have meetings, I will be collecting checks through the mail. Please make your check payable to: La Mesa Woman’s Club or simply “LMWC” and write 2021 Dues on the memo line and mail your check directly to me: Lou Turner, 4325 Avenida Gregory, Spring Valley 91977

Please advise me if you have moved, have a new phone number or new email address. (Note: We already have new contact information for Barb Allen- Martinosky and Donna Beckley-Walker.) We hope that all of you will continue your membership and encourage other friends to join us. Call or email if you have a question to (619) 462-4746 or email: Injturner@cox.net.

I will be sending an email reminder in November and personally contact all those who don’t have an email. Thank you for your prompt response. We hope to receive all checks before December 31st, 2020.



A very Happy Thanksgiving to everyone!



SAVE THE DATE

The Executive Board has changed the October 30th fundraiser date to April 30, 2021 (5th Friday) as the date for our Roaring Twenties fundraiser.



Greetings fellow members. Once again Programs became Posters. Betsy and I had fun designing and creating posters for Gertrude Findley’s 100th drive by birthday.



This month for our “Zoom Program” guest on November 14th at 6:30 will be one of our “OWN” Nancy Watson-Evans. She is a Veteran and was married to a veteran. Please, if you can, join us and listen to what she will be sharing in regards to her service to our great nation.

This Gavel Talk I would like to share a few stories honoring Veterans within my own family. I will start with WWI thru WWII and end in Viet Nam. John M. Hoven was my grandfather who entered the service in 1917. He served in the Advance School Detachment of the 38th Division. He sailed from Hoboken, NJ to South Hampton, England on the Aquitania. There he was sent to Le Havre, France for ground training. After training he was sent into battle in the Argonne Forest, France where he was gassed with “Mustard Gas” October 28th, 1918. He was hospitalized in Le Mans, France returning to the US in January of 1919. He then went to Officers Command School, Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas and was assigned to the 49th Infantry Hdqrs. Company, Fort Snelling, Minnesota.

David Schmidt was my father’s younger brother. He was a Lt. Colonel, USAF. He joined the Air Force at age 20 and was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant Pilot in 1943 as a B-17 Flying Fortress pilot. His plane was shot down in August 1944 over Leipzig, Germany. His entire crew parachuted safely in the Ruhr Valley, however captured, and taken prisoner spending the remainder of the war as a POW in Stalag Luft II and was punished under Hitler’s SS. He was eligible for the Purple Heart, however, declined the honor because he suffered no catastrophic injuries. He remained in the USAF as a career officer and instructor pilot for B-47 and B-52 aircrafts. He became Operations Staff Officer and Base Commander at Chambley Air Base, France (1965-1967) and Vice Commander at Ramstein Air Base in Germany (1967-1968). He returned to combat flying during The Bay of Pigs and the Vietnam War. He earned the Distinguished Flying Cross Air Medal with oak-leaf cluster, Bronze Star Medal, Republic of Viet Nam AAF Honor Medal and RNV Air Combat Medal in addition to eleven other service and combat medals.

Doug Barghols, my husband of almost 50 years in April of 2021, served in the US Navy from 1968-1971. He served in Viet Nam. He too suffered consequences of war being exposed to Agent Orange in Viet Nam. We all know and are proud of those whom we love, have loved and who have served our country. Therefore, I ask each of you on Veterans Day to send a note, make a call or thank someone you know who has served or is now serving our great nation.

And once again ladies, let’s remember to be kind.

PLEASE NOTE: The Southern District General Meeting via Zoom is being held on the 3rd Wednesday, November 18th at 9 am. If you want to participate, please contact Sandi for an invitation.

FEDERATION HISTORY HIGHLIGHT:

Sandi Phoenix

As many of you know, history is one of my favorite topics. I love sharing the outstanding projects our federated sisters accomplished in years past. Here's one I found in the Fall 2020 issue of the "GFWC California Clubwoman" magazine. Did you know?... the California Federation of Women's Clubs was instrumental in the design, creation, and placement of the El Camino Real Bells that line the original route from mission to mission beginning in San Diego and ending in Sonoma?

"El Camino Real, translates into the Royal Highway or the King's Highway, and it was the first roadway in the state, built to link the missions... Anna Pitcher of Pasadena started a movement to mark the original path. She was soon joined by Mrs. Armitage C.E. Forbes (Harrye Rebecca Piper Forbes) who was a member of the Pasadena Woman's Club, and Mrs. Forbes got the California Federation of Women's Clubs involved. CFWC formally adopted the project in 1902. They were joined by the Native Daughters of the Golden West.

Mrs. Forbes designed the bell, bought a foundry and started a bell company named The California Bell Company. She became America's first woman bell maker..."

"Each bell was labeled El Camino Real and was marked with the years 1769 (date of the first mission) and 1906 (date when the first bell was installed in Los Angeles) and showed the distance to the next town or mission. Eventually 450 bells lined the route."

Today, John Kolstad owns the California Bell Co. He offers the sale of a bell from the original mold for the reasonable price of \$2,200.

Have you seen these bells as you traveled the California coast? Now you know where they came from.



HOSTESS CHAIRMAN – Evening

Angie Lombardo/Roz Kennedy



The clubhouse is closed indefinitely due to the corona virus mandate to suspend all gatherings. We hope to be able to meet again in the fall.

Bridge Dates:

**No bridge sessions until further notice.
Sorry, ladies.**



LMWC BRIDGE MARATHON

Margie Howard-Hartman

I was hoping that we could complete our marathon games but with the pandemic continuing we will have to close out the scores as of February.

1st Place Winners—Barbara Watkins & Margie Howard —11,880

2nd Place Winners— Jody Iverson & Joan McGuire—11,813 (including an average score for 1 game not played).

Thanks for playing!



Margie Hartman continues to undergo tests to determine the cause of her neck pain. Please keep her and her doctors in your prayers. We wish her relief and recovery. Elaine Ayres is our contact.

Darcy Barghols is making a speedy recovery after her surgery. She appreciates all the cards and good wishes sent by the LMWC members.

