



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



GAVEL TALK - JULY 2026

Pat Kelly, Editor

CALENDAR OF EVENTS		BIRTHDAY CORNER
JULY	AUGUST	
Wed. 1st Executive Board 9:30 am <i>No General Meeting in July</i>	Fri. 5th Executive Board 9:30 am Fri. 21st Bunco Lunch 9:30 at Marie Callender's	 Mary England 8th Kathy McLaughlin 9th Margaret Mendez 10th Judy Burgess 13th Debra Childers 31st

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Kathy Tinsley



Hello Club Sisters,

For those that participated in our survey at the June 10th meeting, thank you very much. Your input is important in how you want your Woman's Club meetings. The results can be found in this Gavel Talk. Reminder, no meetings in July and August however your Board will be meeting and planning for the Fall.

Many thanks to Ellen and everyone that participated in the La Mesa Flag Day Parade. It was a lot of fun "getting the word out" about LMWC by handing out American Flags and candy. Stay tuned for our next 125th Anniversary event!



Kathy thanking Mary for hosting the 125th kick off at El Torrito Restaurant on May 19th.

Happy Summer,
Kathy

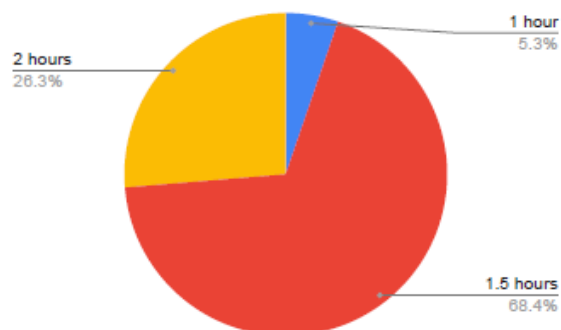
Results from June 10 2020 General Meeting Questionnaire

18 responses received at meeting

1 response received via text

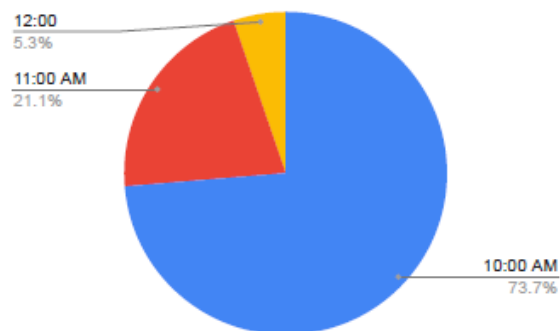
WHAT DO YOU THINK IS THE APPROPRIATE LENGTH OF OUR MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS?

1 hour	1
1.5 hours	13
2 hours	5



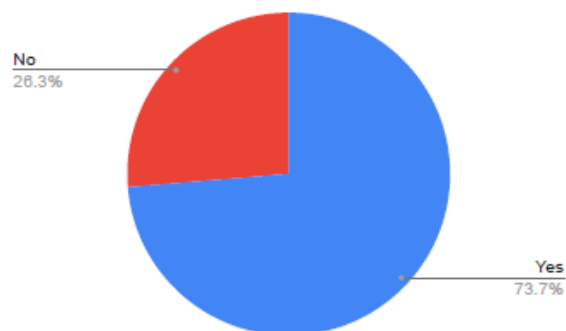
WHAT DO YOU THINK IS THE BEST TIME TO HOLD OUR MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS?

10:00 AM	14
11:00 AM	4
12:00	1



WOULD YOU LIKE A LUNCHEON AT OUR MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS SCHEDULED QUARTERLY?

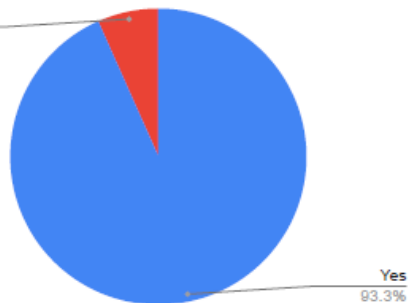
Yes	14
No	5



IF YES, ARE YOU WILLING TO PAY FOR YOUR LUNCH?

Yes	14
No	1

No
6.7%

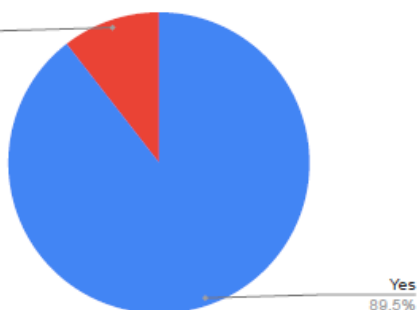


Note: everyone did not respond

AT OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS, WOULD YOU PREFER A COMBINATION OF OCCASIONAL GUEST SPEAKERS AND OCCASIONAL SOCIAL ACTIVITIES?

Yes	17
No	2

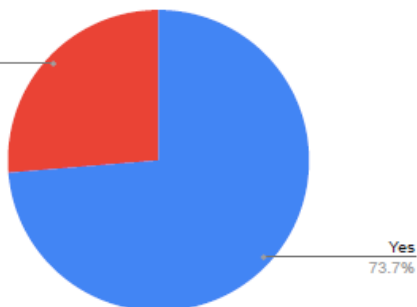
No
10.5%



IN LIEU OF FULL REPORTS BY CLUB OFFICERS AND STANDING COMMITTEES, WOULD YOU PREFER ONLY HEARING NECESSARY ACTION ITEMS?

Yes	14
No	5

No
26.3%





125th Events are well underway.

The Club received some great publicity for an article in La Mesa Courier. If you have not read it, check out the News tab on the LMWC website.

Our Kick Off event in May was well received by the community. It was great to meet so many of the people we support and who support our organization. The Flag Day parade was another opportunity to get the club's name out to the community. It looks like we may have 2 new members as a result.

We are looking for members to join a new sub-committee "Utility Box Design" to work with the Grossmont Community college students who will be designing, proposing and painting a utility box in the La Mesa community. If you like public art or working with students, this will be a fun project. No special experience needed.

Next Up:

- July 19 1p - 3p Flag Presentation and Ice Social at the La Mesa Veterans Club
- August 5 - Backpack Presentation at Bancroft School. (Time TBD)
- September 12 Holiday Non Perishable Food Drive. Bring your donations to the general meeting on September 9. Then join LMWC at Marie Callender's to hand off the donations to the Food Pantry and have lunch. (Thank you to Mary E for providing lunch)

We are looking forward to seeing you at these events.

Please check our website

lamesawomasclub.org for additional details and updates under the calendar and news tabs.

The 125th Committee will continue to send out emails about the activities and how you can participate. Any questions, reach out to Ellen and/or Pauline.

Ushering

Lambs Theater is looking for ushering support for an October 25th performance of American Rhythm. Email Pauline if you are interested.

Communications Committee

Lane is doing an amazing job posting updates about the Club on Facebook. Please make sure you follow the club and like our posts. If you have ideas for posts and social media activity, please email me. The committee meets once a month to review our activity. Remember photos are great to have. You can share them with me via text or email. Darcy has been amazing sending current and historic photos of club activities.

Planning for 2027

I am looking for ideas on projects for 2027. Are there organizations that you would like to support that we currently don't? Is there something you think we should be doing that we are not. I will be emailing out a list of currently supported groups before the September meeting. Is there a committee that you are used to seeing in volunteer organizations that you are wondering why we don't have one? Email or call me to share your thoughts.

Heart and Stroke Walk

Saturday, September 19th, event opens at 6:30 am. The Walk starts at 7:15 am at Balboa Park, 6th and Laurel Street, San Diego, CA 92101

The club is evaluating putting a team together to participate in the Heart and Stroke Walk. The Walk has 1 and 2.6 mile options. We need someone to register the team and recruit members. Fundraising can be done using tools on the American Heart website and the Club website and Facebook accounts. If you are interested in organizing or just walking, email me.

2nd VICE PRESIDENT

Marsha McDonald and Pat Spear



Our numbers are growing! Thanks to our beautiful website and our first public event, the La Mesa Flag Day parade, we have received a few more prospective members filling out applications. Our membership stands at 40 paid members right now! We are doing the happy dance! One of the newest members saw us at the parade and decided to join right then! And Debra's husband is our first male member! Our next initiation will take place at our September meeting where we will enjoy introducing all these new members to you. It will be a special occasion!

Pat and I are going to have an orientation coffee with our newest members perhaps in August at Starbucks to get to know them better and have them gather more information about us.

We have many wonderful events planned for the rest of this year and into next. We are sure they will want to be part of it all. At many of these events we will have a membership table. If any of you would like to join us as we give out brochures to encourage more women to be a part of our organization, please let us know. The more the merrier!

Pat and Marsha

3rd VICE-PRESIDENT

Mary England

Calling ALL Bunco Players!
Invite Your Friends & Family to Join in The Fun!
From your 3rd Vice President, Mary England

It's time to make your reservation to join in the fun on Friday, August 21st and play Bunco with us! A fun-filled time begins at 9:30 a.m. and ends at 2:30 p.m. This is the first time our Club has hosted a Bunco Party in years! We have the room set for (40) Bunco players and to date we have **(15) spots still available!** What are you waiting for? Talk to your friends and tell them to join in the fun! I am out of the country from June 28th through July 12th, so send an e mail to secure your spot to: mary@maryenglandpr.com. We will take care of your payment when I return. Go to our refreshed web site lamesawomansclub.org to learn more about this event and other upcoming activities that your Club is planning! Below is the information regarding our Bunco party, "Let the Good Times Roll"!!

Friday, August 21st

The Party Begins at 9:30 a.m.
With complimentary morning refreshments
at
Marie Callender's
(In the Garden Room)
6950 Alvarado Road, San Diego 92120

\$40.00 per person
Includes a delicious box lunch and
morning refreshments

Make Your Reservation Now!
We Have Room for (15) More Players!

Reservation Deadline is Friday, August 14, 2026
Register NOW

Happy summer everyone.

No general meetings during July and August mean we have no meeting programs during these months. To find something to write for our Gavel Talk article, Lynn and I decided on two things.

First, we decided that it is important to remind all members that we are having a “Let the Good Times Roll” LMWC fundraising Bunco event on Friday, August 21st. It is very important that we make this fundraiser a success. Our club financial account needs additional funding this summer. Look for the reservation form in the “Gavel Talk”. The reservation deadline is August 14. The cost is \$40 which includes morning treats, a fun-filled morning of Bunco, a delicious box lunch, and friendship. Besides special Bunco prizes, there will also be Opportunity prizes. The Bunco fundraiser will be in Marie Callender’s Garden Room, 6950 Alvarado Road. Your club needs your support! Invite your Bunco group, your family, and your friends. While Mary is on vacation, if you have questions or want to make reservations, contact Sandi.

Second, we missed the Flag Day Celebration last month, but we won’t miss the 4th of July or our nation’s 250th anniversary. In honor of these two very special July celebrations, here is a short biography about Betsy Ross. According to legend Betsy Ross sewed the first American flag with its circle of thirteen 5-pointed stars in the field of blue and its seven red and six white horizontal stripes. Despite a lack of credible evidence to support this, Betsy Ross remains an icon of American history. Much of what is written has been passed down by word of mouth, especially by her family.

We do know that Betsy Griscom was born on January 1, 1752, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She was the 8th or 9th child of 17 children to a Quaker family. She attended a state Quaker school learning sewing, crafts, cooking, and other subjects thought important to females at this time.

Her father apprenticed her to a local upholster at the age of 17, where she met John Ross. John was of the Anglican religion so, it was felt that a Quaker girl would never be interested in an Anglican man. To the shock of both families, John and Betsy eloped in 1772. Together John and Betsy started their own upholstery business where Betsy’s sewing skills increased and business prospered. John died in 1775. They had no children.

On June 15, 1777, Betsy married her second husband, Joseph Ashburn. Betsy and Joseph had two daughters, Zilla and Eliza. Zilla died at age 9 months. Husband Joseph was sent to prison for treason because he was of English ancestry. Naturalized U.S. citizenship was not recognized in those days. Joseph died in prison.

In May 1783, Betsy married her third husband, John Claypoole. They had 5 daughters. John endured a long illness and died after 34 years of marriage. During all these years Betsy managed the family upholstery business and sewed flags for the U.S. military, and insignia flags for businesses. After Betsy’s death, her daughter Clarise took over the family business.

Elizabeth “Betsy” Griscom-Ross-Ashburn-Claypoole died on January 30, 1836, at the age of 84 years. She had been in ill health and blind for three years before her death. She died peacefully in her home in Philadelphia.

Over the years, Betsy Ross’s legend of being the lady who sewed the first American flag grew to be considered history. It is known that she changed the proposed square flag to be a rectangle because the rectangle is bigger and waves better in the breeze than a square. It is also known that she changed the proposed 6-pointed stars to be 5-pointed stars because a 5-pointed star is easier to cut and to sew.

She also became an example of how many women of her time lived. She lived through widowhood, she was a single mother, she managed her household and a business independently, and she quickly remarried for economic reasons. Betsy Ross is truly a female icon of our American history.

Lynn and I wish everyone a fun filled 4th of July and our nation’s 250-year anniversary celebrations. Sending Federation Hugs,

Lynn and Sandy



Corresponding Secretaries

Carol Klipp and Darcy Barghols

Darcy's quote for July in honor of our 250th anniversary is from our first President. George Washington and crossing Delaware. If it was not for him, we would not have "Triumphed". My quote for you to ponder: ***The harder the conflict, the greater the triumph***!!! That's what we are about. Working through a situation, making it better and celebrating the achievements.



Happy 250th.

Thank you George.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Margaret Mendez

Celebrate America's 250th Anniversary with spectacular firework displays across the county! Whether you are looking for family fun or a breathtaking waterfront view, there are plenty of ways to join the festivities this July 4th.

Big Bay Boom

Experience San Diego's largest display with fireworks launched from four barges across the bay.

- Time: 9:15 PM
- Prime Viewing Locations: Shelter Island, Harbor Island, North Embarcadero, Marina District, Coronado Ferry Landing, or right on the water.

El Cajon 4th of July Fireworks

Head to Kennedy Park for a full day of family-friendly entertainment.

- Festivities (3:00 PM – 7:00 PM): Enjoy train rides, arts and crafts, and family games.
- Live Music (3:00 PM – 9:00 PM): Dance along with 35 Productions and DJ Danny.
- Fireworks: The show begins at 9:00 PM.

Join the community at Town Center Community Park East for a spirited celebration from 2:00 PM to 9:00 PM. Grab your lawn chairs, invite your friends, and get ready for an unforgettable night under the stars!

HOSTESS CHAIRMAN

Lou Turner



There are no General Membership meetings in July or August. However, we do have a **Bunco fundraiser/luncheon on Friday, August 21st. Please sign up and invite your friends and family.**



Our Thoughts
and Prayers
are With you

Carol Graves is having some health issues and needs our thoughts and prayers for a good outcome.

Kathy Denham also has some health issues. Please keep her in your thoughts and prayers for a full recovery.

MOVIES

Margaret Mendez



Since the Grossmont theater—our go-to discount spot—is no longer in existence, we have unfortunately said goodbye to \$4.99 movies and half-price popcorn. To keep our movie outings going, here are some alternative local venues.

The closest options are the Regal theaters at Parkway Plaza and Rancho San Diego. They offer a free loyalty program that you can join online @ regmovies.com to help offset some of the costs.

Here's a list of upcoming films that might spark your interest for a future outing:

Disclosure Day: A gripping exploration of government cover-ups and extraterrestrial secrets.

Obsession: A unique, dark blend of horror and romantic comedy centered around a dangerous wish.

The Odyssey: An epic retelling of Odysseus' journey home after the Trojan War, featuring mythical creatures and the wrath of the gods.

Young Washington: The extraordinary story of George Washington's transformation from surveyor to commander and first president.

FEDERATION DATES and MO RE:

Debra Childers

The next federation meetings are: GFWC Convention 2026, June 27-29 in Scottsdale, AZ



Lane won a raffle prize at the June meeting



Ellen, Kathy, Lynn, Marsha and Pat K