The Woman's Club of Olympia

JOURNAL

September 2026 Edition

PLANNER

NEXT MEETINGS

General Membership
September 1, 2026
Noon

Evening Group–
September 8, 2026
6:30 Social, 7:00 Meeting

Grow, Guide and Give

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NEWSLETTER EDITOR

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As the summer winds down, we are looking forward to gathering again in September! A new club year brings new opportunities, to GROW together, GUIDE through service and friendship, and GIFT our time, talents, and kindness to our community.

We can't wait to see everyone again and begin another wonderful year together!

Anna McKinney, President

NEW MEMBER TO INSTALL

Nicole Reed will be installed as a new member at the September meeting. Be sure to welcome her to the club with a warm welcome!



BENCH RECEIVED

Because everyone collected plastic over the last 2 years, we received our bench which has been put on the front porch of the clubhouse. Great job everyone!!!

WEBSITE UPDATED

The Woman's Club of Olympia website has been updated with the new scholarship information and we have added a calendar to the site. You can now check the calendar to see if any events are reserved at the clubhouse.

COLLECTION UPDATES

If you are wondering what items we are currently collecting or not, refer to this list:

We are collecting plastic, bread tags, and eyeglasses.

WE ARE NO LONGER collecting medicine bottles any longer.



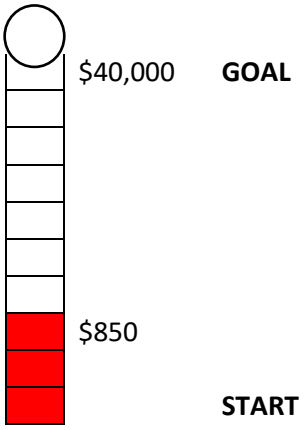
AWARD PRESENTED FOR ART WALK

Member, Nancy Broach, accepted an award from the City of Olympia for work on the Spring Arts Walk. The award is for excellence and innovation in community engagement in the arts. This award will help us put The Abigail Stuart in a more prominent position in marketing the Fall Arts Walk. Congratulations Nancy for your hard work.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

September 1st	GFWC Peninsula District Board Meeting (Elmers in Tacoma)
September 19th	Cascadia Mystic Convergence (Abigail Stuart House)
September 25-27th	GFWC WS Board Meeting - Vancouver, WA
October 2nd & 3rd	Fall Arts Walk (Abigail Stuart House)
October 10th	Period Day (Front Porch drop off)
October 17th	GFWC-WS Peninsula District Fall Conference (Abigail Stuart House)

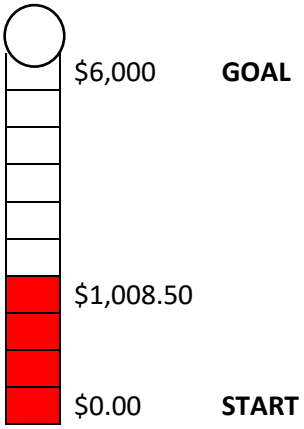
RAISING THE ROOF!



We need to raise funds for a new roof on The Abigail Stuart House. We are setting a goal of $40,000. So far we have raised $800.

Watch the "thermometer" rise!

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISING GOAL



Our club takes pride in presenting four scholarships each year totaling $7,000. We do have designated funds for those awards, but we do not want to deplete those funds, so we continue to raise funds to supplement our goal!

Watch the "thermometer" rise!



ANOTHER MEMBER WENT "OVER THE EDGE"

Our Vice President, Sarah Ketter, participated in the Over the Edge fundraiser this summer benefitting Senior Services of South Sound. Sarah was able to rappel down the building along with Sandra Groves. What a fun event for everyone who joined us. The Senior Services fundraiser raised **$45,373** this year.

MYSTIC FAIR TO BE PRESENTED

Paige Porter has provided this information since the event is a fundraiser for The Woman's Club of Olympia's roof project. If you have never participated in an event like this, stop by on September 19th to see what it is all about, have fun and connect with the community.



NEW MEMBERSHIP BOOKS ARE DONE

The new Membership Books are done and will be handed out at the September meeting. All efforts were made to include every member's correct contact information. Keep your book handy with you as it contains the Collect (if you don't have it memorized), the fundraising events scheduled, and all the committees. If you signed up for a tea committee for one month during the next year, your name will appear on that month's program.



JULY RETREAT

President Anna McKinney held her July Retreat and the day included an overview of what she plans for the next year and input was given for fundraisers. A potluck lunch was served and everyone attending was given a goodie bag. The coming year will be filled with a lot of community service and fun.

Pictured are members who gathered on the front porch after the retreat:

Upper row: Nancy Broch, Paige Porter, Denise Kinney, and Pat Booth;
Middle rows: Sandra Groves, Pam Ditloff, Anita Quintana and Carol Valley;
Front Rows: Linda Wolfe, Sybil Goodkin, Sarah Ketter and Anna McKinney.



HOLIDAY BAZAAR PLANS UNDERWAY

The annual Woman's Club Holiday Bazaar is scheduled for November 14th and plans are already underway. Vendors are getting their spaces rented and members will be asked to help out as Elves. There will be opportunities for the bake sale, lunch service, greeters and all around helper Elf activities.

CRAFT SALE EVENT HELD FOR ROOF FUNDING

On August 15th, a sale of fabric, yarn and various other craft supplies was held at the Abigail Stuart House. Vendors who had a stash of supplies rented table space much like our Holiday Bazaar. Table rental space funds were designated to be put toward our new roof project and we raised $245 and $15 in donations for cookies and sandwiches provided to vendors.



ARCHIVE PROJECT PLANS BEGIN

The committee who signed up to work on the archives and our historic library materials have begun work to digitize our documents. The committee consists of Sandra Groves, Pat Booth, Jean Garwood and Luellen Charneski. In the beginning stages, the project appears to be a mountain of work to be done, but "we have a plan", says Sandra Groves. This project will preserve our documents digitally and it is hoped to have the documents searchable for names, dates, and type of document. The project will also serve as a template for other clubs to preserve their libraries for the future.

CALL TO FALL BOARD OF GFWC-WS PENINSULA DISTRICT

The Fall Board meeting will be held on September 1st at Elmer's Restaurant in Tacoma at 5:30 p.m. All District members are invited to attend along with the District Board members. Plans for the October 17, 2026 Fall Conference will be discussed. The Fall Conference will be hosted by the Capital Woman's Club of Lacey and will be held at The Abigail Stuart House, home of The Woman's Club of Olympia. The speaker will be from Chemo Bags of Hope and we will collect items from the following list and prepare 50 bags. Whatever you want to contribute will be appreciated. Everyone will be invited to the Fall Conference as well.

Adult Bags	**Children Bags**
✓ lap blanket ✓ coloring book ✓ crayons/colored pencils ✓ puzzle book ✓ pencil, eraser & sharpener ✓ journal and pen ✓ sanitizer ✓ tissues ✓ rice bag ✓ lollipops ✓ chapstick ✓ folder ✓ notecards ✓ reusable water bottle ✓ stress ball	✓ lap blanket ✓ folder ✓ coloring book ✓ journal and pen ✓ sanitizer ✓ tissue ✓ stuffed animal ✓ reusable water bottle ✓ stress ball

The June minutes are being reprinted for review prior to accepting at the September meeting.

The Woman's Club of Olympia
General Membership Meeting Minutes
June 2, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 pm by President Anna McKinney. The Collect and Pledge of Allegiance were recited.

Guests: guests included Judy, a representative of the Little Red School House and Jody Brown, who is a member of the Women's Club in Shelton which is the newest GFWC club in Washington State. In addition, 2026 WCO Scholarship Recipients Han Quatch, Brolin Boelte, and Kolton Nash and parents were in attendance, and students shared their future college plans.

Business/Announcements:
A motion was seconded and approved to accept the minutes of the last meeting.

Denise Kinney provided copies of the Treasurer's report and reported that the club's fiscal year ended on May 31 and the club has a net revenue of $11,000. The report will be updated reflecting May 31 and filed for audit.

Judy Kimmeldorf of the Little Red School House, reported that LRSH supports all public schools in Thurston County and the socks the WCO collected will go to schools throughout the entire county. The LRSH is a non-profit organization with all volunteer staff which has been supporting school students since 1992.

Tea Committee: Jean Garwood, Sybil Goodkin, Anita Quintana and Carol Valley were thanked for today's potluck lunch.

Paige Porter reported that the Mt. St. Helen's shared memories event she presented on May 17 was well attended. The event raised $600.00 which will go towards the roof fund for the Abigail Stuart House. The Mystic Faire on May 23 was a success and raised $1,008.50 which will go towards the scholarship fund. Paige is planning a fundraiser on Saturday of Memorial Day next year.

The Evening Group will be collecting hygiene items on June 10th, and Shelly Willis of FESS (Family Education and Support Services) will be the speaker.

Amendment to Bylaws: Amended Bylaws were passed today. Copies of revised bylaws were presented at the past three meetings.

President Anna McKinney read the 2025/26 President's Annual Report submitted by Sandra Groves. Sandra Groves announced there will be a GFWC District picnic in Tacoma on June 8 from noon to 4 pm which is potluck.

Mary Siddell reported that Book Club meets on the fourth Monday of the month.

Linda Wolfe requested volunteers to bag food for All Kids Win on June 3 from 1-3 pm at Columbia Bank in Lacey. This will be the last one for the school year.

Anna McKinney encouraged members to sign up for Committees and the monthly Teas for the next year and sign-up sheets were provided during the meeting. Anna announced there will be a planning retreat for WCO on July 21 from 10-2 at the Abigail Stuart House which will include a potluck lunch.

Denise Kinney announced that dues are due this month and members can pay online or by mail.

The final pen pal letter of the year is also due now.

Raffle Winner: Ms. Boelte (parent of one of the scholarship recipients).

Member of the Month: Anna McKinney thanked Sybil Goodkin for her awesome job with membership.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:55.

Debbie Weir, Secretary

FOOD BAGGING AT ALL KIDS WIN



Wednesday, September 3rd is our day to bag fruit at All Kids Win. Spend a couple of hours volunteering to bag 2 applesauce containers in a plastic bag. Not hard work, but important. Lively conversation and fun usually happens while bagging. 1:00 p.m. to 3 p.m. Contact Linda Wolfe for more information.



TABLES TO GIVE AWAY

As part of a clean up the attic project, we have several old wood card tables which have been stored and we have not used them. If you would like to have a table or if you know someone who needs one, they will be made available at the September meeting for free or if you would like to make a small donation to take them, it would be greatly appreciated. They make great extra tables, for putting together, or many other uses.

We also have a couch to get out of the attic so think about possibilities for that also (a church, a college student, or someone you know).



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.womansclubofolympia.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 $50.00 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 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: