



# The De Anza District Roadrunner

Proud Members of CFWC and GFWC

Donna Allosada, Editor



## A Message From De Anza District President, Mickie Reed

Welcome Back!

Let's Connect the Dots. I hope you've had a chance to rest and recharge this summer, because we're diving into an exciting new Federation year! We kick things off with CFWC Fall Board, August 28–30 in Ontario, CA, right in our backyard! The focus is Membership, so be sure to attend or send your Membership Chair.

Next up is the Western States Region Conference, September 10–14 in Long Beach. It's always a favorite, full of energy, ideas, and connections with our Western State sisters and brothers.

On September 15, we'll gather for our first District Conference, hosted by the Elsinore Woman's Club. This meeting doubles as our National Day of Service, with two child-focused projects that touch on Domestic Violence prevention. Bring your Snug as a Bug wish list items and enjoy a simple craft, great company, and yes... this time, we're dancing instead of singing!

We're continuing our Club Participation Challenge, which helped boost attendance and support across our clubs. I'll announce the winning club at the conference! We have a membership chime to award as well!



I'm thrilled to share that we've grown! As of July 31, our membership rose from 606 to 635 members, thanks to all of you. Let's keep that momentum going by focusing on retention.

Finally, I'm turning my theme, Connecting the Dots, into a strategic plan. At each conference, we'll explore one part—starting with Part One: Recognizing Your Dots. It's all about examining your members, projects, and practices with fresh eyes. Details and a worksheet will be in the Black Box.

Let's get ready for a powerful year, connected, energized, and united.

*Mickie Reed*

Your De Anza District President

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## CONNECTING THE DOTS STRATEGIC PLAN

### PART 1 – Recognizing Your Dots

#### **Start with your people.**

Look at your members one by one. What are their strengths? Are you creating space for everyone to contribute, lead, and grow? Maybe someone is a tech whiz, a born recruiter, or just the person who makes everyone feel seen. Who's missing from your table? What kind of member would make your club even stronger?

#### **Spot and support future leaders**

Leadership doesn't always look like a loud voice or a confident stance. Sometimes it's the member who quietly gets things done, the one with creative ideas, or the one others naturally follow. Are you mentoring these members? Are you offering small opportunities to lead, speak, or organize? Encouraging leadership at all levels, especially from newer or younger members, ensures continuity, and helps your club evolve with fresh energy and vision.

#### **Next, your projects.**

Which activities bring your members together and spark enthusiasm? Are you repeating the same projects out of tradition or convenience? When was the last time your club felt energized by a project? Ask your members what they care about and want to do. What's worth keeping, changing, or letting go? What is an innovative idea that can get your club and the community excited?

#### **Connect with Federation.**

Being part of Federation means you're part of something larger. Are you attending or encouraging others to attend trainings, conventions, and events? Are you using Federation resources, tools and the digital library for guides, ideas or promo materials to enhance your club's work? Make sure your members know they belong to a powerful, united movement.

#### **Reflect on your meetings.**

Are they welcoming, organized, and engaging? Do members leave feeling heard, appreciated, and informed, or frustrated and drained? Is the business portion efficient, or are you stuck making tiny decisions as a full group? Strong clubs run well and make meetings something members look forward to. Do something fun!

Finally, check your timing. Are your meeting times realistic for working members or younger women juggling family and careers? A small change in schedule or format might open the door to a new wave of involvement.



## Strategic Planning Worksheet: Part 1 – Recognizing Your Dots

Use this worksheet to guide your club leadership through a meaningful reflection on its people, projects, operations, and connection to Federation.

### 1. Know Your Members *(Pull out your roster and go one-by-one)*

- What are the individual strengths of your members?
- Are members being given chances to lead, contribute, and grow?
- Who is missing from your club? Who should you be inviting?
  - Does your membership reflect your community?

### 2. Review Your Projects

- Which projects unite and excite your club? Which one has the highest involvement?
- Are you repeating projects out of habit or genuine interest?
- What should be kept, updated, or replaced?

### 3. Connect with Federation

- Are members aware of and involved in Federation resources and events?
- Are you using Federation tools like guides and promotional materials?
- Are you fostering a sense of belonging to something bigger?
  - What are you doing to encourage and assist your members with Federation conference/convention attendance?

### 4. Reflect on Meetings

- Are your meetings welcoming, engaging, and efficient?
- Is the business portion clear and concise?
- Do your meetings reflect fairness and inclusivity?
  - Are your meetings fun?

### 5. Assess Meeting Schedule

- Are meeting times accessible for working members or younger women?
- Could a time or format change increase participation?
  - Is your town a commuter town, where potential members are gone during the workday? Does your club venue have major employers nearby that could make lunchtime meetings attractive?

### 6. Promote Leadership

- Who shows potential for leadership, through action, ideas, or support?
- Are you offering small, manageable leadership opportunities?
- How are you mentoring or encouraging new leaders?
  - Are you sending a candidate to LEADS?

## 2025-2026 District & CFWC Calendar

### 2025

9/15/25: (Monday) September Conference  
Elsinore Woman's Club  
*Advocates for Children*

10/04/25: Area D Conference

11/09/25: (Sunday) November Conference  
Riverside Woman's Club  
*Environment*

### 2026

1/19/26: (Monday) January Conference  
Woman's Improvement Club of Corona  
*Legislation & Public Policy*

2/07/26: De Anza District Fundraiser  
*The History of the Wedding Dress*

3/14/26: (Saturday) March Conference  
Beaumont Woman's Club  
*Domestic Violence*

April TBD: De Anza District Convention  
Temecula



## Not Getting The Roadrunner?

Club Presidents:

Do you have new members? If so, please be sure to send your member roster changes so that all of your club members receive a copy of the *De Anza District Roadrunner Newsletter*.

Thank you!

Donna Allosada, Editor  
[Info.DeAnzaDistrict@gmail.com](mailto:Info.DeAnzaDistrict@gmail.com)

## Advertise in The Roadrunner!

Get the word out about your business by advertising in *The Roadrunner*. We publish five times per year, with direct emails sent to over 500 contacts from Temecula & Hemet to Holtville, Calexico & Indio and several communities in between.

- \$50 - business card; 5 issues/year
- \$75 - half page; 5 issues per year
- \$100-full-page; 5 issues per year

For more information, please contact:  
[Info.DeAnzaDistrict@gmail.com](mailto:Info.DeAnzaDistrict@gmail.com)

## Call to the September De Anza District Conference

You are invited to attend the De Anza District Conference on Monday, September 15th, in Lake Elsinore. Meet members from other clubs, do two National Day of Service projects, and more! [The Call is attached](#) to the De Anza District Conference with all of the details.

The cost is \$30 for registration and lunch. Your club will register you and provide details about paying and the deadline for registration. Please specify your meal choice. See the menu below:

- Regular meal: Penne Pasta Marinara (with option to add meatballs), garden salad, sautéed zucchini, garlic toast, Parmesan, and crushed red peppers. Lemon squares for dessert.
- Vegetarian meal: Same meal without meatballs

Hope to see you in September!

Lois Bailey  
Corresponding Secretary  
De Anza District

Have you registered?



# ENVIRONMENTAL BOOST - Butterflies

by Margaret Meyncke, De Anza District Environment Committee Chair

## Who Loves Butterflies?

*The answer is... everyone!*

If you want to see butterflies thriving in your garden, there is one simple yet powerful thing you can do: plant native plants. And if you want to help save the Monarch butterfly from extinction, there is one specific native plant they absolutely depend on: Narrow-Leaf Milkweed (pictured right).

Monarch butterflies are picky.

- The female Monarch will only lay her eggs on one plant.
- The caterpillars will only eat one plant.

That plant? You guessed it:

### ***Milkweed.***

But not just any milkweed will do. For Southern California and our De Anza District region, the right kind is Narrow-Leaf Milkweed (*Asclepias fascicularis*)—a native species that supports the complete life cycle of the Monarch. Where to find Narrow-Leaf Milkweed?

- Ask your local native plant nursery
- Check with Lowe's, Home Depot, or Armstrong Garden Centers
- You can also explore California native plant sales and local garden clubs

By planting just one milkweed in your yard or patio, you're giving Monarchs—and all pollinators—a fighting chance. Thank you for caring about our butterflies.



With gratitude,

Margaret Meyncke  
951-551-6231  
[m.meyncke@gmail.com](mailto:m.meyncke@gmail.com)

# De Anza District' Woman of Interest

by Peg Boortz, De Anza District Woman's History Chair

**This report is about Claudia Thunnell. Here's Claudia's story:**

Navy Years July 31, 1964–December 27, 1966

Remembering telling her mother as far back as the sixth grade that she would join the Navy after graduation, Claudia Johnson enlisted on July 31st, 1964. She went to boot camp in Bainbridge, Maryland, where she wrote that she and her fellow WAVES spent so much time in close proximity, they acquired new family ties and learned to rely on each other. They spent their evenings talking, writing letters, shining shoes, getting ready for the next day's events, and doing any primping they had time for before lights out.

Claudia completed boot camp three months later. She admitted that she hadn't wholly acquired discipline, which made military life difficult. Bunks were made before breakfast, and gear was stored away correctly. Everything had to be in its place and ready for spot inspections.



A lingerie inspection checklist showed the women were allowed six pairs of panties and one pair of white socks. How many of us could be happy with those numbers? Claudia wrote in her scrapbook that they spent many hours in the laundry room.

She passed her first lingerie inspection, although the required stenciling on her clothing should have been more legible. Lockers were inspected once a week for 86 infractions, including having too many hangers. Folded clothes, toiletries, and gear; in fact, everything the WAVES were allowed to have was assigned to certain shelves, and clothes hung in a required order. The 59 members of her Company were assigned two-hour Watch duties seven days a week, and all recruits were required to carry with them at all times a small, trifold paper entitled Atomic, Biological, and Chemical Warfare Pocket Reference.

## *On the lighter side, there was liberty.*

But even liberty had its rules. Recruits were reminded that unladylike or unmilitary acts would discredit themselves and all who wore the uniform. When granted liberty, rules required the WAVES to wear uniforms with hats, pumps, gloves, and name tags. They were not allowed to have alcoholic drinks or get in private cars.

Despite the hard work and discipline, Claudia and her friends had fun during off time. Other than graduating, there were a few things everyone looked forward to. During Service Week, classes and drills were canceled, although marching to meals and other activities were as usual. They enjoyed Lancaster's Liberty Day and going to the USO.

## De Anza District's Woman of Interest, Contd.

Throughout their training, good-looking men served the women meals in the mess hall. However, no talking with the men, whom they called trees, was allowed, other than saying what they wanted on their trays. Claudia wrote that the men's comments made it hard not to laugh or make a smart remark in response without catching the attention of a monitor. One girl had to eat a note that was passed to her.

After boot camp, she asked to be placed in Machine Accountant School and was trained to be a Machine Accountant who operated all types of business machines: keypunch, sorters, interpreters, reproducers, collators, and alphabetic accounting machines. Claudia admitted she wasn't much for school, probably because she liked to party. She also considered herself bold and brassy and "smarted off" (respectfully, of course) with everyone at work, school, and on the job training.

Claudia met her future husband on her way to Niagara Falls with a friend. Neither was impressed with the other, but the following week was another story. They went on a first date and had many more dates after that. Six short months after dating, she married Chuck in a Presbyterian Church in Alden, NY, on October 6th, 1965, 59 years ago.



Chuck was transferred to a dock-landing ship serving the shores of Vietnam. Claudia was transferred to San Diego, and Chuck's ship returned to San Diego two days later. With the wisdom of Naval assignment personnel, after five short months, Chuck was transferred to Key West, Florida. There were no openings for Machine Accountants in Key West, so Claudia spent the next seven months separated from her husband by a continent while fulfilling her military obligations, after which she was honorably discharged from the US Navy. She loved the Navy and would have remained in the military had she and her husband been kept together.

### What else, you may ask, has Claudia done?

After Key West Chuck was transferred to Guam. Claudia became active in the Navy Wives Club in Guam during Chuck's assignment there. As a member and President, she learned valuable organizational and leadership skills that she used in her civilian career. She had several jobs, including keypunching and accounting at Motorola in San Diego, Hawaii, and Illinois, as well as at an art gallery and the First Hawaiian Bank in Hawaii.

In Key West, Chuck purchased a 12-foot-by-60-foot trailer for them to live in. It had two bedrooms and enough room for the two of them to be comfortable. She felt like she was coming home. Chuck retired from the Navy after 20 years of service and after promising their eldest daughter that he would not return to sea duty. Looking back on her military life, Claudia said she is thankful for the opportunity to serve. She learned so much and grew up in many ways.

## De Anza District's Woman of Interest, Contd.

Serving her country as a WAVES and Navy wife and mother gave her a strong sense of responsibility and an inner strength she otherwise wouldn't have. Training and making decisions on her own made her who she is today. Today, Claudia Johnson Thunnell is an active member of the Temecula Valley Woman's Club and the De Anza District.

### Finding Joy in the Journey

Not many of us would choose a military life, but we certainly admire and respect those who do. Claudia may not consider her time in the Navy and as a Navy wife as exceptional, but it was, and she deserves our appreciation. Few of us would be willing to spend two and a half years in the military, especially during the Vietnam Era. Her selfless and patriotic devotion to our country, as well as her dedication to the Temecula Club and the De Anza District, is truly admirable and has earned our respect.

***Claudia Thunnell is a true De Anza District Woman of Interest.***

### De Anza District ESO

A Message From Marlon Carrier, De Anza District ESO Chair

From: Marlon Carrier  
Sun, Aug 3, 12:46 PM



Please SHARE with your Club Members interested in ESO and promote via your Newsletter and/or social media.

Club ESO Chairs & Presidents,

Attached is Reggie's CFWC ESO Newsletter for August, along with Dana Jones' GFWC Education & Libraries + ESO Newsletter.

Please encourage your members to attend our September De Anza District Conference on September 15 in Lake Elsinore, where I will share information on our ESO Summer Reading Challenge entries.

Marlon Carrier  
GFWC Woman's Club of Indio, Past President #76  
De Anza District, Epsilon Sigma Omicron Chair  
C - 678-656-2511

By Mickie Reed

# The De Anza District Roadrunner

August 23, 2025

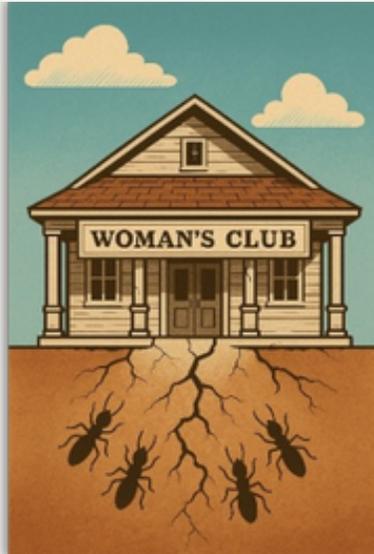


PRESENTS



# TERMITES IN THE CLUBHOUSE

We take great care to preserve our clubhouses by fixing leaky roofs, keeping the paint fresh and maintaining our water pipes. We know that even the smallest crack can invite termites, those silent saboteurs who devour the foundation from within.



We have all been guilty, I know that I have. But for some people, it is a true sickness.

But what can we do? First, start with yourself. A timeless piece of wisdom says before speaking, you should ask yourself three questions. 1) Is it true? 2) Is it kind? 3) Is it necessary? Set a positive example. When mean gossip starts, steer the conversation elsewhere or stop it kindly, but firmly. Change the subject or say, "Let's talk to her/him directly instead."

## Is it True?

Yet too often, we fail to recognize the human equivalent of these pests: gossip, negativity and toxic behavior that eats away at the heart of our clubs.

Every woman and man who joins a club brings something valuable to the table. They often start with enthusiasm, eager to share their knowledge and talents. But when others treat their suggestions with a roll of the eyes, a whispered snide remark or a cold shoulder at the meeting, the enthusiasm turns into disappointment, even bitterness. This behavior can begin a chain reaction that drives away good members. Gossip is more than idle talk. It is a form of control, by insecure people, often disguised as concern or camaraderie.

Like termites, this behavior often starts quietly.

## Is it Kind?

A clique forms. Instead of building each other up, some start tearing down, one sarcastic comment at a time. A fresh idea is not met with encouragement but with criticism, often masked as tradition. A leader feels undermined, members start avoiding each other, and new members just disappear.

Let's call it what it is: Destructive.

It contradicts everything women's clubs stand for, which is friendship, service and unity.

## Is it Necessary?

The strength of our clubs doesn't come from our bank accounts, our bylaws or our buildings, it comes from the character of our members. Let's be the members who protect our foundation, who celebrate the work of others, and who speak with integrity. Let's support, instead of criticizing, even if we disagree. Let's be the kind of members who make others want to stay and serve.

When termites go unchecked, the roof eventually collapses. But when the foundation is strong, there's no limit to what we can build together.

"Great minds discuss ideas. Average minds discuss events. Small minds discuss people."

- Eleanor Roosevelt

# CFWC DE ANZA DISTRICT

SAVE THE DATES

# 2025-2026

CONNECTING THE DOTS

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2025  
ELSINORE WOMANS' CLUB  
FOCUS: ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN  
**"RECOGNIZING YOUR DOTS"**



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2025  
RIVERSIDE WOMAN'S CLUB  
FOCUS: ENVIRONMENT

**"BRIDGING THE GAPS"**

MONDAY, JANUARY 19, 2026  
WOMAN'S IMPROVEMENT CLUB OF  
CORONA  
FOCUS: LEGISLATION AND PUB. POLICY

**"CONNECTING THROUGH COMMUNITY"**

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2026  
BEAUMONT WOMAN'S CLUB  
FOCUS: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

**"LEAVING A CONNECTED LEGACY"**

## CFWC / GFWC Writing Contest

By Kay Masonbrink, De Anza Writing Contest Chairperson

With summer passing by so quickly, most of our De Anza clubs are gearing back up. This is a reminder to encourage members about the CFWC/GFWC writing contest. All written entries for the contest (both member and youth) must be completed in the calendar year of January 1-December 31, 2025. By all means, encourage your members to use their creativity to participate by contributing a poem or short story, but I do want to rally our clubs to promote youth writing entries.

Motivating students to write is absolutely critical in their education as it encourages them to think, research, share their thoughts and improve their writing skills, all of which are important attributes needed to be competitive in the world. What an easy way to make a positive and lasting impact on the education of your community's children.

The **2025** contest handouts with rules and necessary forms will be posted on the De Anza website shortly, and I will have printed copies at the September conference. Important: Deadline for submissions to me is February 13, 2025. Don't confuse this with the later CFWC deadline.

There is one submission per category allowed from each club. If you have any questions, please contact Kay Masonbrink at [kmasonbrink@roadrunner.com](mailto:kmasonbrink@roadrunner.com) or 951-223-3047.

My cadre of judges can't wait to read your submissions next February!

Kay

## Arts and Crafts and Photography Contests

By Laureen Pedroza, De Anza Arts and Culture Chairperson

The Arts and Crafts, as well as the Photography contests, are scheduled for March 14, 2026. Artistic expression is a powerful means of sharing ideas, inspiring others, and relieving stress. Now is the perfect time to begin working on the project you hoped to submit last year, start capturing images of your favorite places and people, or finally complete that unfinished object waiting on your table.

All paintings, crafts, mixed media, woodwork, sculptures, and photographs must be produced between January 1 and December 31, 2025, to be eligible for entry.

Entry forms must be submitted to me by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 27, 2026. Detailed rules and entry forms for the 2025 Arts and Crafts, and Photography contests will be shared via email to all De Anza district members. Printed copies will also be available at the September conference in Lake Elsinore.



16 YEARS  
OF HAPPY  
CLIENTS



# NEED HELP CARING FOR YOUR LOVED ONE?

Let us help you find a solution!

Caring for a family member who has memory loss or health challenges and making the decision to place a loved one into care can be overwhelming. Families often have deep concerns. Whether you're looking for independent living, assisted living, memory care, or another form of senior care, we would be honored to help you find the right option for your loved one. With 16 years of experience, you can rely on us to help you make the best choice for your family.

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## CONTACT:

- ✉ [Sylvia@seniorlivingoptionsofthedesert.com](mailto:Sylvia@seniorlivingoptionsofthedesert.com)
- ☎ (760) 636-8030
- 🌐 [www.seniorlivingoptionsofthedesert.com](http://www.seniorlivingoptionsofthedesert.com)



Leann Dale, CEO



Sylvia Baran,  
Family Advisor

# MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

(For more info, click on photo for website or email address.)



Great to see you Saturday, Carol Conway.....thank you for helping out at Special Olympics!  
~ Rob

## August 2025 Event in Corona



## October 2025 Event



2025 Area D Conference Call  
Let Your Light Shine with Area D's  
'Dolls on Deck'  
\$45  
Saturday,  
October 4, 2025

# October 2025 Events

**WOMAN'S IMPROVEMENT CLUB OF CORONA'S**  
 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Pasta Italiano

**Spaghetti Dinner**

5 - 8 pm Saturday  
 October 11, 2025  
 1101 S. Main Street, Corona, CA

**Tickets**  
**\$40** per person

Checks payable to WICC & mail to  
 Jackie Lopez  
 24566 Pine Way  
 Corona, CA 92883

Email: [pica\\_10@msn.com](mailto:pica_10@msn.com)  
 951-638-5826

**LIVE MUSIC!**  
 The Multi-Talented  
**DJ Jake Gutierrez**

**No - Host Bar & Dancing!**

**Menu**  
 Spaghetti, Marinara Sauce, Beefy Meatballs, Salad, Bread & Dessert!

**Gift Card Tree Drawing**  
 Valued at **\$1000.00**

Tickets only \$30

Tickets only \$30

All proceeds will go toward the Corona/Norco USD Scholarship Awards & WICC Community approved programs. We are a non-profit, non-political, non-sectarian 501(c)(3) organization. Donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. EIN #95-1486846

**BEAUMONT WOMAN'S CLUB**

**GOT TALENT? AUDITION!**  
**VARIETY SHOW**

**OPEN CALL**

**NO ENTRY FEE**

**AGES:**  
 6 YRS. - 12 YRS  
 13 YRS - 25 YRS  
 26 YRS - 54 YRS  
 55 YRS +

**\$300 GRAND PRIZE**

**SPACE IS LIMITED**

**EVERY ONE WINS**

**OPEN TO ALL**  
 INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS

**HOW**

SEND VIDEO OF YOUR ACT TO:  
[gfwcbeaumont@gmail.com](mailto:gfwcbeaumont@gmail.com)  
 BY 09-15-2025 NON-PROFESSIONAL VIDEOS WELCOME

**SHOW**

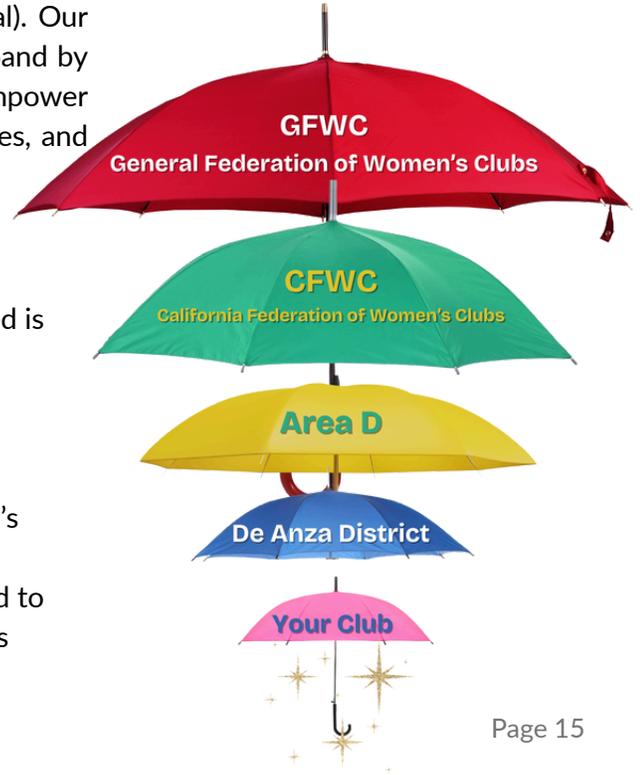
**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2025**  
**1:30 PM (DOORS OPEN 1 PM)**

# How Your Club is Part of the De Anza District

The De Anza District is one of six districts in Area D (SoCal). Our District has 12 dynamic women's clubs, and we hope to expand by including more clubs in the future. We strive to unite and empower our club members to promote education, uphold moral values, and embrace club projects and initiatives.

## Did you know...

- **Your Club** is part of the De Anza **District**, and Mickie Reed is our current President
- The District is part of the Southern California **Area D**
- Area D is one of 4 Areas in the California Federation of Women's Clubs (**CFWC**)
- CFWC is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs (**GFWC**)
- GFWC is an *international* women's organization dedicated to community improvement by enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service



To submit articles, please contact Donna Allosada at [beesum1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:beesum1@sbcglobal.net).

From:  
CFWC De Anza District Women's Clubs  
[Info.DeAnzaDistrict@gmail.com](mailto:Info.DeAnzaDistrict@gmail.com)

*Thank you for reading!*

TO:

