

THE WOMAN'S CLUB OF WINTER PARK, INC.

MAY 2018 HIGHLIGHTS



President: Judy Allen
President Elect: Nancy Miles
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President's Report 2018



Dear Ladies of the Woman's Club of Winter Park, Inc.,

The beginning of my term as President began with a series of challenges that I had not anticipated. On that Thursday Tom Glennon submitted his resignation as venue/audio-visual manager. The next week Kyle Grafton, our club administrator announced the pregnancy of her second child and would leave in October to be a stay-at-home mom; Carmen Munez (chairing Yearbook) moved to Miami, Jo Ann Ralston (Finance chair) would move to Mexico; and Hospitality chair decided she couldn't fulfill the obligations of that position. Within two weeks Karen Rodda and I interviewed Chip Keefer, and he was hired to replace Tom Glennon. Within a couple of months we had four applicants seeking Kyle's position, and Aycha Williams was hired to be our club administrator. We played musical chairs with board members: Churchill Thompson became Yearbook chair, Mabel Rasmussen become Finance Chair, Natalie Hill replaced Mabel as Ways and Means Chair, and Kathy Dunn become Hospitality Chair. Everything worked out beautifully and I can assure you that every board member has given the Woman's Club 100%. And we couldn't be happier with Aycha and Chip.

I believe that the year 2017-2018 has been a very good year for the Woman's Club of Winter Park. Thanks to our program chair (Sandra Blosssey) and her committee we have experienced excellent programs throughout the year. Thanks to our charitable giving chair (Marilyn Cromer) we continued our work with the Salvation Army, and enlarged our time, talent and energy with the Orlando Union Rescue Mission in helping at Thanksgiving and Christmas, and supported the Winter Park Housing Authority at Christmas and Valentine's Day. Karen Rodda and Maureen Holloway have kept the house and grounds in amazing condition. Chris Bush has worked hard to increase our membership and encourage new members to be active members.

Our finances have been managed by Arlene Bridges, Bev Cox and Mabel Rasmussen. Being treasurer is a full-time commitment and Arlene has done a superb job.

Natalie Hill as Ways and Means has also become our club seamstress. The evidence of her beautiful talent is everywhere here.

Barbara Hughes, as Scholarship chair, has provided so much leadership to select worthy candidates for financial assistance and searched for ways to increase the revenue from her funds to give even more aid to those in need. Churchill Thompson did a wonderful job as the yearbook chair as well as being our photographer. Kathy Dunn has supervised the hospitality committee, and is responsible for the wonderful teas that we enjoy each week. Jean Rife has faithfully recorded club minutes and kept records for 4 years. Sue Luongo sent letters and cards to members while she was undergoing some very difficult times. Kim Mould, as historian, was honored at our Founder's Day program for her dedication to excellent "Historical Research and Preservation of our History". Meredith Murphy as Parliamentarian has worked to strengthen our bylaws and improve our rental contracts. Nancy Miles is our expert on social media and publicity, and in one more year will be your extremely capable president. Cynthia Gerken, as past president on the board, has been my right hand and support. She's been the one I have turned to for help and has answered every question that I had.

Last April after the installation of the officers I had two goals: continue with our purpose of charitable giving and partner with other groups in Central Florida. We partnered with four stores on Park Avenue: The Impeccable Pig, Talbots, Through the Looking Glass and Eileen Fisher. With the revenue from these stores and our various fundraising projects, we have earned over \$11,000 to be used for charitable giving in the community. The charitable giving committee will designate which charities will receive a total of \$5,600 and the remainder of our earned monies will be moved to a saving account with funds from the last two years to be used at a later time.

Congratulations to Sandra Blossey for her skills in grant writing. She recently applied for a grant from St. Margaret Mary Church to be designated for the Welbourne Day Nursery. Sandra received a check for \$3500 which was given to Welbourne for a future garden/learning project. Sandra spent many hours preparing the grant application and we truly appreciate all that she does for the Woman's Club and the community.

Since the restoration of our building our rental activity has increased over 50%. We say a special thanks to Churchill Thompson for the design and formation of our promotional trifold describing the purposes of the Woman's Club and rental possibilities. This brochure has been placed in various places around the city. And a special thanks to Karen Rodda for her superb care of this magnificent building. She works constantly with Chip Keefer and Freddy Gutierrez (our maintenance and Venue Rental Staff) to see that our club house is ready for each rental activity that chooses to use this facility.

This year we started a new committee called the Member-Outreach. Since the beginning of the Woman's Club 103 years ago, the membership has contributed so much to the Central Florida Community. I also envisioned the Woman's Club in another way. We are now 157 members, but one group – one family or sisterhood. When a member is confronting an illness, a hardship of any kind, then we should be one with that member to walk the journey with them –to lighten the load they are carrying. And this year, I've seen so many members come forward to help with meals, rides, thinking of you cards, phone calls, anything that lets a member know we care.

At Valentine's Day we prepared 25 beautifully wrapped boxes filled with cookies and chocolate to distribute to members or former members that weren't able to attend many of our meetings anymore.

We wanted to make sure they knew that we were thinking of them and appreciated all that they had done for the Woman's Club for so many years. This action of love and care makes the Woman's Club of Winter Park truly unique. I've heard so many of you say (and especially new members) that I've never been involved with such a group before. It's very rewarding to see the generosity and warmth that I see in each one of you. I've introduced some new areas of charitable giving in the community. I know that some may say, "Are we getting over involved?" It's sometimes good to cast a wider net and see where it leads. Don't feel as if you need to do everything that I propose. You can pick and choose where you want to be involved.

Being the President of the Woman's Club has been a blessing to me. When I was seeking members to be chair persons for luncheons, activities, and committees, each woman that I asked said "yes." And I've seen our new members become truly active members. The more involved you become, the more the Woman's Club will mean to you. I am very grateful for your support and thank each of you for what you mean to the Woman's Club.

Judy Allen



Woman's Club of Winter Park Board Members 2018-2019

President: Judy Allen
 Vice President/President Elect: Nancy Miles
 Recording Secretary: Sharyn Jontz
 Corresponding Secretary: Sue Luongo
 Yearbook: Churchill Thompson
 Treasurer: Arlene Bridges
 Asst. Treasurer: Rae Clark
 Program Co-chairs: JoAnne Bandy, Deborah Kirkwood
 Finance: Mabel Rasmussen
 Scholarship: Barbara Hughes
 House: Karen Rodda
 Grounds: Maureen Holloway
 Charitable Giving: Marilyn Cromer
 Membership: Chris Bush
 Ways and Means: Judi Andrews
 Historian: Kim Mould
 Parliamentarian: Meredith Murphy
 Hospitality: Kathy Dunn



Esther Allen 5/11
 Julie Caton 5/15
 Mary Forman 5/19
 Sharyn Jontz 5/29
 Nancy Miles 5/26
 Carol Nawrocki 5/3
 Sue Springer 5/10
 Rose Walleze 5/5

Judy Allen 5/27
 Mary DeVaney 5/11
 Guinevere Grier 5/16
 Ruth McDaniel 5/15
 Kim Mould 5/8
 Kay Simmons 5/12
 Cathy Wallace 5/24

House Chairman 2017-2018 Annual Report

Respectfully submitted by: Karen Rodda

May, 2017 ...The "New Club Year Begins!" at least for the House Committee!! Recent summers have become our major project time. Summer 2017 was finally a bit less hectic than the 2015 Summer, Interior Restoration and 2016 Summer, new Archive Room and Lyman Entrance. We had to reluctantly say goodbye to Tom Glennon ...so he could *really* retire and travel with his wife. However, to our delight - that other door opened and Chip Keefer came on board!

June & July ...were not without surprises. Though we were able to book additional rentals because of the lack of construction, the weather man was not our best friend. We had some challenges with a drought and then the never ending rains including the July 4th storm that flooded the basement, (yes we have a basement :) and created some leaks in the roof and chimney areas. Keeping the House and grounds pristine for the rental events became a task that was met head on with a very devoted staff and club members.

August & September ... as we continued with summer rentals and were able to address some "deep cleaning" needs, in preparation for a new Club season, little did we know the July 4 storm was just a warm-up to dealing with Ms. Irma who came calling Sept. 10. Though we were quite blessed for lack of true damage, there was more than ample clean-up, Chip & Freddy showed up instantly, came to the rescue and all rentals proceeded as scheduled! We also kept one week free of rentals to have Bass Flooring perform maintenance with light sanding and top coating applications of all our wood floors.

October ... Club, fall season begins. We say goodbye to Kyle and welcome to Aycha! Our Woman's Club continues to be blessed with a staff that becomes "one of us!" They join our family and unhesitatingly become engaged in our mission and protection of our beautiful Club House.

Following are other Highlights :) and Lowlights :(...of our 2017-18 Year:

1. Parking Signs - Club Members & Event Guests Parking Only signs, were installed in both parking lot entrances. We will also continue efforts to work with Rollins for access to their garage and Lyman lot for our Thursday Club meetings.
2. A/V Technology - We have contracted with Chip to take us to a whole new level for our A/V offerings. Our entire system including WiFi are very outdated. To date, we've obtained new microphones, upgraded and made our WiFi available to rental guests and secure for us, repaired the ceiling projector, and nearing completion of a new sound board. Next will be a new computer with advanced technology to accommodate program needs of our weekly speakers and rental clients. Stage lighting improvements will follow.
3. Piano - We are currently playing catch-up with some major cleaning and repairs to our beautiful Steinway. All is good and she will grace our stage for many more years!
4. Rental Contracts - We continue to amend our newest contract as we address violations and damages caused during rental events. Our rentals have more than doubled (good news) however, of course we will have additional maintenance with this increase of numbers. The bad news, we are finding a breakdown of communication and responsibility between the renter who signs the contract and the vendors they use for their event. We are taking steps to insure the renter has informed each vendor they hire to have knowledge of the contract rules and their obligations while present in our venue.

Thank you all for your generous compliments through out the year and for all who have helped along the way. Please remember- questions and suggestions are also always welcome!!

My pleasure to serve you, ~Karen

Membership Reminder

Membership dues may be paid starting April 1st for the 2018-2019 year. The renewal fee is \$95.00. To be included in the yearbook, please make that your payment is processed by June 30th. Our membership form can be found at the end of this newsletter. Statements will be sent out at the beginning June 1 to those that have not paid. Thank you for your diligence!

Chris Bush, Membership Chair

Programs Committee

This important Committee is in very good hands with co-chairs Joanne Bandy and Debbie Kirkwood. They are so excited to be on this committee and are already making plans. Their goal is to fill the calendar with good programs by September of this year. If you have program ideas or would like to be on the committee, please contact our co-chairs directly.

Sandra Blossey, Programs Chair

Scholarship 2017-2018 Annual Report

Respectfully submitted by Barbara Hughes

I am honored to have served as Chairman of the Woman's Club of Winter Park, Inc. Scholarship Committee for a fourth year. This year the following members served on the committee: Barbara Bergstrom (Passed Away), Karen Buchan, Marilyn Cromer, Beverly Cox Sharyn Jontz, Elaine Kerr, Elaine Laegeler, Bonnie Mizell, Cindy Price, Karen Rodda, Sheila Spitler, Nancy Vickers and Tamila Vitko. Sharyn Jontz served as Secretary and Bonnie Mizell served as Treasurer. The First Committee Meeting was held on August 11, 2017, to review the Committee Notebooks, to discuss the Scholarship Table to be set up at the Membership Tea in September and to begin discussing the committee members' responsibilities for the Scholarship Reception to be held in December.

We hosted a Scholarship Table for the Membership Tea on September 21.

In November and December, the committee finalized the plans for the reception. In November the \$100,000 from Jenny Fernald Link's estate was placed with the Central Florida Foundation and named the Jenny Fernald Link Fund. Members may make donations to that fund if they so desire.

We had a very well attended Scholars' Reception on December 19th. Entertainment was provided by Imani and Christian Charles, gifted students of Club member Elizabeth Fullington of the Ruby Holland School of Music. Dr. Robert Smither, Dean Emeritus Rollins College, College of Arts and Sciences, provided another thought-provoking talk. A few of the student scholars also shared about their college experiences. We ended the evening with several Drawing winners - thanks to generous donations of members and others.

In February, Barbara Hughes, Bonnie Mizell and Judy Allen met with Andrew Sullivan and Heather Churchill both of Morgan Stanley to discuss the goal of increasing the income from the Endowment Fund held at Morgan Stanley. It was suggested that the Endowment Account be divided into two separate accounts: One account containing conservative CDs and cash and the second account to be the growth portion. For the growth portion, \$200,000 of the \$388,466 (as of December 31, 2017) was to be invested with the Pelican Bay Group under the management of Anthony Gallea and team based in Pittsford, New York. It was also recommended by Morgan Stanley to revise the Scholarship Committee Investment Policy Section IV to read "50-60% may be placed in moderately conservative stocks, stock funds, and/or preferred stocks." (It had been 20-30%) The Scholarship

Committee passed the motion to accept the proposals from Morgan Stanley representatives and to revise the Investment Policy Section IV. The Board was informed of the passed motion and appeared to be in full agreement with the decision.

Applications were due on March 1, 2018. On March 7 and 19, the committee met to study the applications of both new applicants and renewal applicants. The committee diligently examined the material received from each applicant and through the use of a Rubric narrowed down the number to interview. Over fifty applications were received. The committee interviewed 15 new applicants on April 10 and 14, 2018. The Renewals do not need to be interviewed again.

On April 16, 2018, the committee met to determine the actual scholarship awards for 2018-2019. We are proud to be awarding 10 Renewal Scholars in the amount of \$500 per scholar and 10 New Scholars in the amount of \$2,000 per scholar and 4 New Scholars in the amount of \$2,700 each. The total awards are \$35,800. The Committee hopes you will join us in December of 2018 to have the opportunity to meet The Woman's Club of Winter Park, Inc. outstanding Scholars at a reception held to honor them. Also, at this meeting the committee evaluated the year and refined the Rubric, the Guidelines, and the Applications. The moneys awarded to the students are derived from the income earned from the Pauline Mossman endowment at the Central Florida Foundation, the Morse Genius Foundation, the earnings from a capital fund at Morgan Stanley, and donations made specifically to be utilized for scholarships in the current fiscal year. The capital fund at Morgan Stanley has been built and sustained by members who have made donations over the years or by bequests that have been made by members or their families and friends. In the coming year we will also realize income from the Jenny Fernald Link Fund. We thank each and every one of you who have made our scholarships possible. A list of the Scholar recipients *and introduction of each of the new scholars* will be shared in upcoming *Highlights*.

In July checks will be sent to the colleges and universities of our scholars. It has indeed been an honor to serve with some amazingly dedicated woman over the past five years and chairman for four of those five years.

[Ways and Means 2017-2018 Annual Report](#)

Respectfully submitted by Natalie Hill

The Year began with the Annual Rummage Sale on September 2, under the leadership of then chairman Mabel Rasmussen. With the theme, "Going On a Safari, Hunting for Bargains" and lots of volunteers and shoppers, we cleared about \$7,410. Safari aprons, pith helmets and scarfs were worn by the club members and everything went well. Some changes were suggested for the coming year: Have a cut off day on Wednesday for donating items and have a break between the 4PM ending and the time the Vets come to take things not sold.

Our next major project was the Bake Sale and Craft Sale at the Christmas Luncheon. There was also a Special Items table and we took in \$624. The final event was the Woman's Day with numerous booths rented out to vendors. Several crafts were sold at our WC Table. We made \$1,934 on rentals and crafts. During the second half of the year, Mabel took over as Finance Chairman when there was an opening and Natalie Hill returned to the post. She was assisted by Jean Koivu, Jean Rife and Joanne Palmer as committee members.

[Website and Photos](#)

Our website has been updated with pictures from the Installation of our new board and The Hats off to the Woman's Club Tea. Please visit our website for updates!

Churchill Thompson, Yearbook Chair

**MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION
WOMAN'S CLUB OF WINTER PARK, INC.
P.O. BOX 1433 WINTER PARK, FL 32790**

Your Name _____ Today's Date _____

Address _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email Address _____ Birth Month _____ Day _____

Please check if you do **not** want your information published in directory: Phone ___ Cell ___ Email ___

Please list professional experience and volunteer interests:

Please indicate your interest in other committees:

Ways & Means: Labor Day Rummage Sale _____ Spring Woman's Show _____ Founder's Day _____
Bake Sale _____ Auctions _____ Bingo _____ Raffles _____

Community Service: Adult Literacy _____ Salvation Army _____ Orlando Rescue Mission _____
Winter Park Housing _____ Dress for Success _____ Other? _____

Programs: Music _____ Art _____ Literature _____ Travel _____ Health _____ Drama _____ Other? _____

Hospitality: Greeter/Pourer _____ Centerpieces _____ Kitchen Assistants _____ Sandwiches/Cookies _____
Linen cleaning _____

Lunches: Fall _____ Holiday _____ Fashion Show _____ Dinner on the Avenue _____

Scholarship: Review applications, Interview Candidates & Make Decisions _____

Publicity: _____ Website & Facebook _____ Finance Chair or Treasurer _____

Fundraising Committee _____ **House Preservation Committee** _____ **Club History** _____

Membership Committee _____ **House** _____ **Landscaping** _____ **Legal Issues** _____

Holiday Parade _____ **Holiday Tree in the Park** _____

Please add check for your dues ----- (\$95)

New member initiation (one time)----- (\$25)

Voluntary donation-----

Total _____