

THE WOMAN'S CLUB OF WINTER PARK, INC.

APRIL 2016 HIGHLIGHTS



President: Cynthia Gerken

President Elect: Judy Allen

Club Office: 407-644-2237

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President's Message



Dear Ladies of the Woman's Club,

It is April already and the end of our active year of programs, teas, luncheons, and fundraisers for charities. It has really been a spectacular year starting with our rummage sale and ending with our Precious Items sale. Our luncheons and Founder's Event were memorable for food and entertainment. Our programs have been interesting and have included a variety of topics from music to Nano science. And it is not over yet. We have Bingo just for fun and prizes on April 7. On April 14, we will have our final business meeting of the year and will give a synopsis of our activities. Our Silver Tea is April 21 featuring the music of Young at Heart. The Silver Tea is an opportunity for members to donate a tax deductible and greatly appreciated monetary gift to our club. Our last program of the year is the April 28th Installation of the 2016-2017 board members. This year we will also honor our past presidents, as some of our newer members may not be familiar with them. I encourage all of our members to attend the Installation Tea and support the ladies of the board who donate hundreds of hours of their personal time to The Woman's Club.

I would like to add my personal thank you to the 2015 -2016 board members who have been supportive of me during my first year as president and have worked week after week to run the business and social activities of this club. All of the April programs are listed in more detail in these Highlights. Although we won't be having programs again until fall, I would like to remind you to start setting items aside for our rummage sale on September 3rd.

As we are nearing the end of our activities I would like to thank all of you who attended our programs and participated in our activities and helped with teas and fundraisers. Our club is pleased to provide interesting programs to the community and to help raise money for various worthy causes and we could not achieve these goals without the participation of our members. I encourage all of you to renew your memberships by June 30th. A membership form is included in these Highlights. Please enjoy this last month of programs at our club. We will be sending out Highlights during our summer break to keep you advised of upcoming activities and opportunities to serve.

Cynthia

Thank you to all who worked, donated and purchased at our Precious Items Sale at the Spring Luncheon and Fashion Show. We made \$320 for our charitable giving account!

April Programs

April 7 Bingo 1:00pm **PLEASE NOTE THE EARLY START TIME FOR THIS PROGRAM******

Bingo Lovers: Plan ahead to attend Bingo, April 7th from 1:00 PM to 3:PM. Professional Jamie, will do the calling and you can be a winner of a lovely prize. No admission, and invite a friend. Snacks and drinks will be served.

April 14 I-4 Ultimate, Building a Better I-4 2:00pm

Interstate 4 is the transportation backbone of Central Florida. I-4 Ultimate completely reconstructs 21-miles of the interstate in Orange and Seminole counties. The program will feature a preview of what the new and improved I-4 will look like, an update on construction and how the Florida Department of Transportation is keeping drivers informed about this mega project.

Speaker: David Parks – I-4 Ultimate Public Information Officer

April 21 Silver Tea 2:00pm

Join us for a program featuring Young at Heart, a dynamic group of seniors 55 and over who love to sing. They have performed in partnership with Rollins since 1935. The Silver Tea is also an opportunity for members to donate a tax deductible and greatly appreciated monetary gift to our club.

April 28 Installation Tea 2:00pm

Come celebrate the end of a wonderful Woman's Club season as we install our new 2016-2017 Board. We will also be honoring several of our past presidents. We hope everyone will attend and to meet and support our new board members!

Membership Yearbook Additions and Changes:

JoAnn Walker Ralston

160 Fallwood Street
Fern Park, FL 32730
joannfpfl@yahoo.com
386-457-0176

Susan Fowler O'Sullivan

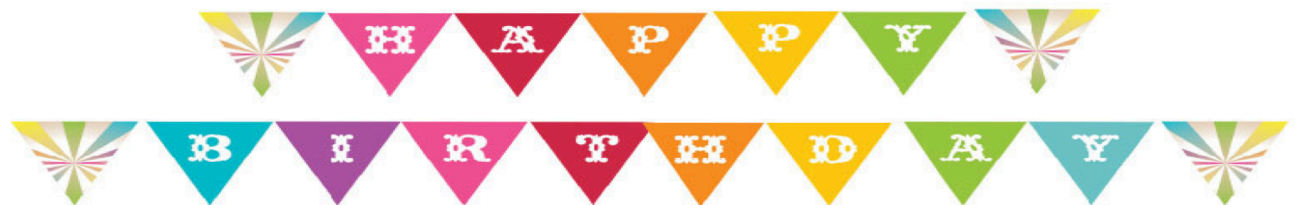
102 S. Interlachen Ave, #108
Winter Park, FL 32789
susanmfowler@aol.com
407-629-2929

Marylin Fermanich

4356 Watermill Ave.
Orlando, FL 32817
marylinmcginnis@gmail.com
407-647-3987

Kay O'dell

407-636-5001



Wishing a Happy Birthday to:

Frances Biddix 4/17
Rosemary Davies 4/28
Joan Gfeller 4/2
Kimberly Murphy 4/3
Sheila Spittler 4/26

Elizabeth Brothers 4/30
Mary Devey 4/21
Carolyn Goldman 4/3
Diane Sandquist 4/4

BJ Cook 4/2
Lorena Dunlap 4/17
Janne Lane 4/5
Jane Watkins 4/15

Charitable Giving

Club members donated sixty purple bags to the Orlando Union Rescue Mission. They were given to the residents who attended the Mission's Easter dinner held on Thursday, March 24th. The volunteer coordinator expressed her appreciation and gratitude for our continuing efforts on behalf of the residents.

I am sure you'll agree that we are equally grateful to have the opportunity to support such a fine organization. Based on the Rescue Mission's predetermined value per bag of \$26.24, the total value of the sixty bags is \$1,574.40.

Nancy Vicars

***Congratulations to Lauren Clark and her family!
MaryCharlotte arrived on March 25!***



SPOTLIGHT ON A NEW MEMBER: Rosemary Davies

1. Sandra Blossey was kind enough to send an orientation invitation, which I accepted. And I'm so glad I did.
2. Which time? The first time I was dragged kicking and screaming to Orlando (this was well before Disney) You see, we lived in Honolulu Hawaii at the time and I was 16 years old so I did not want to leave. My folks wanting to eventually retire down here took precedence over my preference however. Dad went to work at Mcoy Air Force Base, I went to Wm R. Boone High School and graduated. After graduation, I went off to Los Angeles then on to Chicago and then 20 years later moved back here to be near the parents.
3. My first job was as housekeeping hostess for Disney World...If I had only bought stock then. Spending time in marketing and sales led me to start a business, a catering business in Chicago, but upon moving back to Orlando, I started a small gift manufacturing business with a friend. We sold that after a few years and started Pinnacle Awards & Promotions in April of 2000, which continues to this day. The friendship with my business partner, Zack Hussain grew and in June of 2013 we married.
4. Most of my family is tied to the northeast part of the country but since my branch came down here I have acclimated to heat, humidity, sun, bugs, birds, gardening all year and along with my husband, Zack and my dog (Jackson, a purebred mutt with 3 legs) we find the activities Central Florida has to offer abundant.
5. What I find special is that I am now able to give back a little bit. I have been on the Wm R. Boone High School Alumni Foundation for 5 years and am amazed at how active and creative students are these days. I also Chair for the League of Women Voters of Orange County Immigration Committee. I find these organizations as well as the Woman's Club of Winter Park allows me to exercise my brain in ways I never thought possible.
6. I look forward to the afternoon teas, where I can meet new friends. And I will be taking advantage of the variety of charity opportunities, such as donating items for the Dress for Success event. I donated and cleaned out the closet at the same time. A win-win!

Did You Know? By Kim Mould

From September 1, 1939 with the German invasion of Poland, considered the start of World War II, through Great Britain and France declaring war on Germany on September 3rd, the invasion of France in May, 1940, and up until the final month of 1941, the vast majority of Americans, including President Roosevelt and Congress, remained deeply isolationist concerning the German war machine's growing aggression. "It's not our problem, and it's not happening on American soil," voices loudly proclaimed. Then, on the morning of December 7, 1941, Japan attacked the United States Pacific Fleet based at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. On December 8th, the United States declared war on Japan, on December 11th, Germany and Italy declared war on the United States, and we, in turn, declared war on them. Americans no longer possessed the luxury of isolationism.

But it would be wrong to say Americans, men and women, did not care what was happening to the military and civilian populations of war-torn Europe in the two years leading up to our ultimate involvement in World War II. On March 11, 1941, the U.S. Congress passed the Lend Lease Act authorizing military assistance to its Allies in an effort to bring a quick end to the war's death and destruction impacting those within the conflict zone, particularly in Britain. Several charities and relief organizations formed to provide humanitarian aid with most under the organizational umbrella of the **British War Relief Society** (BWRS) headquartered on Fifth Avenue in New York City. One major exception was the New York City based **Bundles for Britain** organization founded by Natalie Wales Latham, later going by the name of Lady Malcolm Douglas-Hamilton, in 1940. At the time, Mrs. Latham was a wealthy, former debutante raising her children in a world of privilege, while organizing charity balls. She believed America should not be drawn into the war, but, like many others, felt that private individuals could join together to help. And Bundles for Britain was born.



At first, the organization "consisted of a few New York women knitting socks and caps for British soldiers. It would grow to embrace 1.5 million volunteers in 1,900 branches in every state in the union and begin shipping to Britain not only hundreds of thousands of knitted items but also ambulances, X-ray machines and children's cots – all labeled "From your American friends." (New York Times, February 3, 2013) Ultimately, over 1.5 million dollars in goods were shipped and another 1 million dollars raised in cash contributions.

According to Woman's Club of Winter Park President Claire MacDowell (1947 – 1949) in her book *Chronological History of Winter Park, Florida*, "The first branch of any kind outside of New York was organized in Winter Park by Mrs. Fielding Lewis Taylor, as a knitting and shop unit. Dorothy Lockhart was President." (Page 242) Immediately, Winter Park residents, permanent and seasonal, and Woman's Club of Winter Park members embraced the ideals of Bundles for Britain, the Red Cross, and the women's war-relief organization the **American Women's Voluntary Service** (AWVS).

A *Winter Park Topics* newspaper article dated February 17, 1940, writes of the "most urgent S.O.S. for all manner of woolen garments. Our purpose is to send sweaters, knitted helmets, socks, scarves, and gloves to the men on the minesweepers, trawlers and merchantmen. Knitting wool is at hand at the Red Cross Headquarters...and Mr. Pruyn has given a corner of his Jewelry Store on Park Avenue for the distribution of wools, knitting needles, and instructions." Social events such as card parties were given for the financial benefit of Bundles for Britain, and even seasonal guests of the Alabama Hotel contributed time, knitting expertise, and money to the effort. To raise much needed funds, Bundles for Britain lapel pins and brooches were sold, which participants wore proudly.

In the Woman's Club of Winter Park Archives, scrapbooks from the time document its members' efforts. For example, on November 11, 1942, a community service luncheon was held at the Woman's Club with Mrs. Kathryn Morgan (President, 1944 – 1946) introducing two speakers, Mrs. Trismen and Mrs. MacDowell, who were to speak of activity opportunities with the Bundles for Britain and AWVS organizations. Members were often encouraged, as noted on club calendars, to bring their knitting to lecture events at the clubhouse.

As the war dragged on, the exhausting, relentless work of war relief effort continued. Woman's Club of Winter Park members sponsored Victory Book Campaigns for soldiers, loaned clubhouse space for once-a-month Service Men's dances sponsored by the AWVS, the Defense Committee actively sold war bonds and stamps, and raised money for the Red Cross, while the club continued its regular social activities, speakers programs, and committee work as often as gas rationing permitted. Woman's Club of Winter Park members energetically and patriotically did their part on the American Home Front.

For a fascinating look at Winter Park during the World War II years, please visit the Winter Park Historical Museum's new exhibit **Winter Park: The War Years 1941 – 1945, Home Front Life in an American Small Town**. The Grand Opening for the exhibit will be held on Thursday, May 12, 2016 from 5 pm – 8 pm and is free and open to the public!

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

Your Name _____ Today's Date _____

Address _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email Address _____ Birth Month and Day _____

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

Please list professional experience and volunteer interests:

It has been our custom that each member participates 2 or 3 times each year on the Hospitality Committee for our teas: greeters, kitchen help, pourers, cookies, sandwiches, centerpiece, etc.

Please indicate your interest in other committees:

Ways & Means: Fall Antique Show ___ 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? _____

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

Scholarship: Review applications, Interview Candidates & Make Decisions _____

Publicity: _____ **Web site & 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 _____