

THE WOMAN'S CLUB OF WINTER PARK, INC.

DECEMBER 2015 HIGHLIGHTS



President: Cynthia Gerken

President Elect: Judy Allen

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President's Message



Dear Ladies of The Woman's Club of Winter Park,

It is hard to believe that the holiday season is here already. There are a lot of club activities and programs on the schedule as noted in this edition of the Highlights. I hope to see a lot of members at the Winter Park Christmas Parade, helping to decorate the tree in Central Park and at the holiday luncheon and Scholarship event. The Woman's Club has a long tradition of helping others all year long but especially at Christmas. It is easy to go in with a friend to buy a gift for one of the children at the Winter Park Housing Authority or fill a stocking for the Salvation Army to give to

a child. These are opportunities to make sure children in the community have a nice Christmas memory. Also, it is not too early to begin thinking about our Founder's Day celebration January 21, 2016, the beginning of our 101st year. Plan to attend this wonderful event to mark another year in the history of The Woman's Club.

At this time in history there are a lot of things going on in the world that take our minds away from the cheerful family events and the feeling of contentment that we enjoy at this time of the year. With the ever-present media and Internet we may become focused on all the violence and horror in the world. Before we say goodbye to 2015 and welcome a new year perhaps we should reflect on the people in our community, state, country and world who are working to bring peace on earth.

Wishing you and your families peace and joy this holiday season,

Cynthia

December Programs

December at a Glance:

December 3- Tea at The Woman's Club 2pm

December 4- Tree Trimming in Central Park 9:30am

December 5- Christmas Parade in Winter Park

December 10- Christmas Luncheon

December 17- Scholarship Reception

Included in this Highlights you will find information and registration for:

- The Holiday Luncheon
- The Scholarship Reception
- The Founder's Day Dinner

December 3 Phil Eschbach Travel 2pm

Phil Eschbach is a commercial photographer specializing in Architecture and travel. He has published two books, Travel in Egypt and Travel in Jordan. He is a ninth generation Floridian and is very involved in our Winter Park community. He will be taking us on a world tour using his beautiful photography!

December 10 Holiday Luncheon 11am

Join us for our popular annual Holiday Bake Sale and Gift Shop. The sale will begin at 11:00am with a social hour beginning at 11:30. Lunch will be served at noon. The cost is \$25.00 per person and guests are welcome! The deadline for reservations is Friday, December 4th. We must receive payment by the deadline in order to secure your reservation. A registration form is included in the back of the highlights.

December 17 Scholarship Reception 6pm

Dr. David C.S. Richard, Dean of The Rollins Evening Hamilton Holt School will be speaking to us as we meet the students who received scholarships from our Scholarship program. Please RSVP to Barbara Hughes by December 10th. Barbarahughes954@gmail.com or 407-673-0567.

December 24 No Meeting



December 31 No Meeting



Join us for Holiday fun in Winter Park!



Woman's Club Tree Decorating- December 4th 9:30am Central Park

Join Carol Card and Joan Gfeller for a morning of coffee, donuts and Christmas cheer! The tree will have begun having the lights and tree top star put on. The club ladies will reach as high as they can to put on the ornaments that we provide. We will be putting them in the back of the tree this year because the bushes have been cut behind the tree. The tree is on the same side of Morse as the skating ring.

Christmas Parade- December 5th

We will have a red convertible and banners to march in the Christmas parade this year! If you would like to join us, please meet at 8:30 on December 5th on Whipple Avenue between Park Avenue and New York Avenue. We are spot 37 in the lineup.

Donor's Dessert Party

On November 10th, we celebrated the donors who made our Capital Campaign a success and the club restoration possible.

Sandra Blosssey, Preservation Chair, shared the story of recognizing the need to update our clubhouse and working to raise the funds necessary to achieve the beautiful result. Attendees saw slides of the 'before' and 'after' and had tours of the various areas of the house led by Sandra and Karen Rodda, House Chair. This festive evening was a fitting celebration to showcase the newly restored Woman's Club.



Joyce and Bill Munsie

Joan Clayton

Charitable Giving

One of the hallmarks of the Woman's Club is that its members are consistently distinguished by simple acts of kindness, generosity of spirit, and remembering that we are "our brothers' keepers". Our ladies make the Christmas Spirit last all yearlong!

We have donated \$200.00 to "A Gift for Teaching" and \$200.00 to "The Orlando Urban Rescue Mission. In-kind donations to UCF amount to \$967.00 and \$1001.00 to Fern Creek School.

Remember to keep bringing in Salvation Army stockings (due by Dec. 3rd) and Winter Park housing gifts for our four families (due by Dec. 10th).

Thank you everyone and have a wonderful holiday!

Baked Pineapple Casserole

Drain 2 large cans (21oz) Pineapple Chunks
in 100% Pineapple Juice
Place in bottom of 11x7x1.5 in. pan

Mix together 3/4 cup Sugar
2 Tablespoons Flour
1 cup Shredded Sharp Cheddar Cheese
Pour over Pineapple.

Crush Ritz Crackers (use 1 roll in box)
Sprinkle over top of Pineapple mixture and bake for
25 minutes @ 350 Temperature.

Best from oven to table. Serve warm.

Enjoy!

Rose Walleze

SPOTLIGHT ON A NEWCOMER: Marilyn Cromer



1. How did you hear about the Woman's Club and what interested you in joining?

I learned about the club through Barbara Hughes, who invited me to the tea for potential new members. I was interested, as I know from observing other women's clubs how much good they do for their communities, and I wanted to know what the Winter Park club was involved in and whether it would be a good fit for me.

2. How long have you lived in Central Florida and where did you live before?

I first moved to central Florida in 1970. During the next 10 years, lived in Winter Park, Altamonte Springs and Longwood. Moved to Cocoa Beach in 1984. Since retiring 2 years ago, now divide my time between Cocoa Beach and Casselberry.

3. What has been your career experience?

As a licensed clinical social worker, I have worked in mental health and healthcare throughout my career. I spent 22 years working in hospice care, both as a volunteer manager, manager of psychosocial services, and manager of bereavement services. Hospice care was my passion! It is so needed for patients and families at end of life care.

4. Is there anything you would like to tell us about your family?

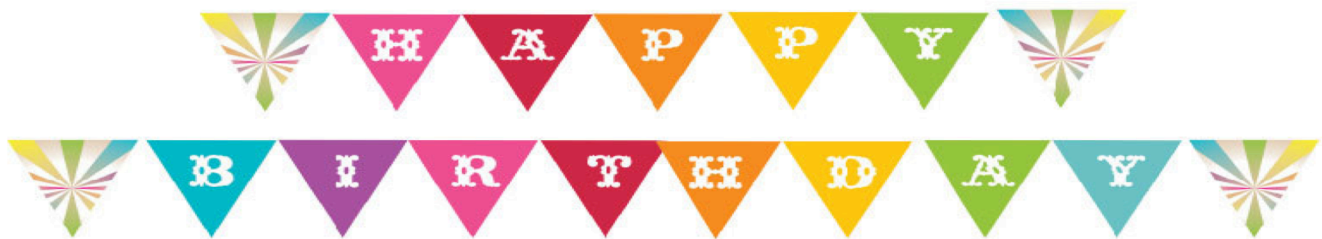
My daughter Lynn and her family live in Casselberry (why I now live in Casselberry too part time). My son Jason has just begun work on yet another degree at UCF (has 2 others) and commutes from Cocoa Beach, staying with me occasionally. The other 2 men in my life I am passionate about - 12 year old grandson Jackson, and 8 year old grandson Parker. They keep me busy!

5. Would you like to include anything unusual or specific about yourself?

I am also passionate about exercise - mainly Zumba classes at the YMCA - and FSU football. I am trying to learn to play bridge. And, I enjoy travel - have quite a bucket list!

6. What activities are you looking forward to in our club?

I have joined the scholarship committee and look forward to being a part of it. I am interested in whatever efforts the club has to help the hungry/ homeless in our communities. I look forward to being involved!



Wishing a Happy Birthday to:

Valerie Reeves 12/13
Karen Berg 12/29
Jean Koivu 12/6
Christine Bush 12/31
Lauren Clark 12/21
Pat Miller 12/25
Julie Rankin 12/26

Jane Tims 12/23
Beverly Cox 12/27
Carmen Muniz 12/25
Ginger Campion 12/29
Barbara Hughes 12/31
Rita Sue Miller 12/12
Frances Stultz 12/12

A REVIEW OF THE BOOK "FAMILY BUSINESS"

A History of the Fairbanks Morse Company
and the Charles Hosmer Morse Family

Born in 1833, Charles Hosmer Morse came from humble beginnings as the son of a hardworking farmer in Vermont, but when he died nine decades later he was one of the richest men in America, leaving behind an industrial empire, Fairbanks Morse & Co., whose products not only changed America but also were sought and respected the world over.

The book researches the family history beginning in 1635 when Anthony Morse and his brother William, both listed as shoemakers, arrived at the Massachusetts Bay Colony from Wiltshire, England. Several generations later a son John Morse married Elizabeth Hosmer, and nine months later their son Charles Hosmer Morse was born on September 23, 1833 in St. Johnsbury, Vermont. And on December 11, 1850 Charles left his father's house to join the E. & T. Fairbanks Company, a scale-making factory. He made a whopping salary of \$50 a year. He rose quickly in the company working in New York, later expanding to Chicago where he was made a partner in the firm. He moved to Cincinnati and extended to Indiana, Kentucky and Tennessee with branch offices in Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Louisville.

Charles married Martha Jeannette Owens on June 30, 1868. They lived through the Chicago fire of 1871 and continued to build the company, which then became known as Fairbanks Morse & Co.

The book continues with many stories of the family, as the author, Betsy Covington Smith, a great-granddaughter of Charles Hosmer Morse reviews historical records that have been kept over the years. It also provides insight into living conditions at the time.

In 1904 he bought the 300-acre Francis Knowles estate in Winter Park for \$10,000, which included much of the town plus four large lakes and the following year Winter Park became his permanent residence. He did many things for Winter Park, such as giving all of the land for what is today Central Park, built a public golf course and agreed to serve as a Trustee of Rollins College. He also gave Winter Park its first City Hall and of course gave the land and building for the Woman's Club of Winter Park. And also in 1904 he bought another house for his family, Osceola Lodge.

The book continues with many family stories, including a report of the death of Charles H. Morse until May 5, 1921. His funeral was held at the Winter Park Congregational Church and the book includes descriptions of the funeral as well as memoirs written by local persons and the newspaper. Upon his death, his Will divided his estate between his two sons. As they had a history of not working well together, this proved to be the demise of the Fairbanks Morse Company. Although the products lived on, they did not carry the name.

The name Charles Hosmer Morse also lives on through the Elizabeth Morse Genius Trust and the Elizabeth Morse Trust as well as the Charles Hosmer Morse Museum. The Woman's Club is grateful for a grant from the Genius Foundation, which allowed the Club to repair and retain its historical designation.

All in all, the book is a fascinating look back in time to one of our most important leaders who lived in Winter Park, Charles Hosmer Morse.

Diane Sandquist

Did You Know? By Kim Mould

On April 16, 1906, when Charles Hosmer Morse, and the Winter Park Land Company, conveyed to the “Town of Winter Park” several prime parcels of land in the center of the town for use as a public park, so explicit was Mr. Morse’s philanthropic intent that the deed document reads: “it being expressly understood that the use of any of said lands for any other purpose will cause the same to revert to the party of the first part, his heirs or assigns.” Over one hundred years later, Central Park, the beautiful green space between Park Avenue and the railroad tracks, continues to welcome residents and visitors alike and encourages all to use the beautiful space to rest, to engage in play or socialize, and to commemorate or celebrate.

The Woman’s Club of Winter Park, as documented in two charming articles from the *Winter Park Post* newspaper dated November 25 and December 9, 1915, has historically planned and supported community events and activities in Central Park, including sponsoring the first Community Christmas Tree in the park. Previously, Christmas trees had appeared in churches, private homes and businesses. Woman’s Club history notes that the club has often been credited with sponsoring the first tree in **1921**, however, these articles prove that the Woman’s Club actually sponsored the first community tree years earlier, in **1915**, our founding year!

The *Winter Park Post*, dated November 25, 1915, reads: “Christmas Tree Permit Granted...Rich and Poor to Gather Around on Christmas Eve...Conveyances Will Be Supplied to Fetch Little Children from Long Distances.” At a special meeting of the city council, permission was granted to the Woman’s Club “to put up a Community Christmas Tree in the public park, opposite the garden between the reading room and the Seminole meat market.”

An article dated December 9, 1915, describes the glorious tree as “thirty-five feet high, sparkling with silver tinsel, brilliant with a shower of multi-colored electric lights, the center of a jolly Christmas gathering” where close by a “beaming Santa Claus will mingle, passing out gifts to the children.” The newspaper writes: “We are indebted to the Woman’s Club for this pleasant feature of the coming holiday” and goes on to thank Mayor and Mrs. Temple, a Woman’s Club charter member, for a donation to the expense fund and for 150 toys from New York for the children. A community Christmas program was planned for the lighting of the tree on Christmas Eve and on Christmas Day, including a chorus singing part of the *Messiah*, a children’s choir providing other musical selections, selected holiday readings, and Mayor Temple expressing “the spirit of the hour” in a special address.

As Mrs. Herbert Halverstadt, the Woman’s Club Committee Chair, cheerfully expressed: “The main idea is to get the people together, to encourage a community spirit and a spirit of good fellowship. Certainly Christmas is a time of good will and a time of rejoicing...Incidentally, the tree will be a great ad for Winter Park. It will be placed where everybody going through on the trains will see it...that there are lots of people here, and that we are abreast of the times; that this is no sleepy, poky town, and that you do not have to go to Pittsburg or New York to see a community Christmas tree.” In 2015, we continue this wonderful club and community tradition.

A few notes....

- If you have not received a yearbook, they are available in the office. Please be sure to sign for it when you pick it up
- Mary Ann Page’s email should read: tistou@embarqmail.com in our Yearbook
- If you need a name tag, please let Kyle know (info@womansclubofwinterpark.com)



Join us for our

Holiday Luncheon

December 10, 2015

*Featuring our popular annual
Holiday Bake Sale and Gift Shop
Sale begins at 11:00 - Social Hour at 11:30
Luncheon at Noon*

\$25.00 per person - Guests welcome!

Deadline for Reservations - Friday, December 4th

Payment must be received by deadline to guarantee your reservation

RSVP by Friday, December 4th to:

Carol Nawrocki 535 N. Interlachen #202, Winter Park, FL 32789

Make checks payable to The Woman's Club of Winter Park, Inc.

Name: _____

Guests: _____

Seating Request: _____

Total Payment: _____



It is this time of year that we think of gift giving...

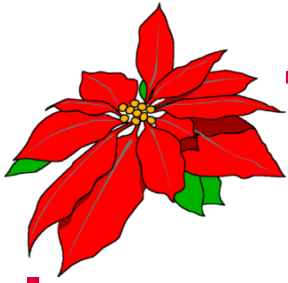
Hopefully you will consider...

- End of the year gift giving in the form of a donation to The Woman's Club Scholarship Fund
- Making a *bequest* to The Woman's Club of Winter Park, Inc. Scholarship Fund
- Making a Donation to The Woman's Club Scholarship Fund honoring a family member or a friend

The Silver Scholarship Bowl will be available at the Christmas Luncheon,
December 10th and

at

The Scholars' Reception on December 17th
(All donations are tax deductible)



**The Woman's Club of Winter Park, Inc.
Scholarship Fund Reception
Honoring 2015 Scholarship Recipients**

When: Thursday, December 17, 2015

Time: 6:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m.

**Where: The Woman's Club of Winter Park, Inc.
419 South Interlachen Avenue**

Enjoy Heavy Hors D'oeuvres and Beverages

Speaker

Dr. David CS Richard

Dean of The Rollins Evening Hamilton Holt School

**Celebrating 77 Years (1938-2015)
Scholarship Fund Endowment 501(c)3**

**Please respond by December 10
with the number of people who will attend
barbarahughes954@gmail.com or 407 673-0567**





The Woman's Club of Winter Park
Founder's Day Dinner



Join the Woman's Club of Winter Park
as we celebrate 101 years!

January 21, 2016
6:00pm Wine, Welcome & Dinner
7:00pm The Wily Women of Winter Park
presented by Central Florida Vocal Arts

\$35 per person ~ Guests welcome!

RSVP by January 15, 2016 to:
The Woman's Club of Winter Park
P.O. Box 1433
Winter Park, FL 32790
407-644-2237

Name(s): _____

Amount included: _____

Checks made payable to:
The Woman's Club of Winter Park, Inc.