

THE WOMAN'S CLUB OF WINTER PARK, INC.

# FEBRUARY 2016 HIGHLIGHTS



President: Cynthia Gerken

President Elect: Judy Allen

Club Office: 407-644-2237

Email: [info@womansclubofwinterpark.com](mailto:info@womansclubofwinterpark.com)

## President's Message



Dear Members of The Woman's Club,

February is the busiest month. Same amount to do, fewer days to do it. Of course this is a Leap Year so we have an extra day in the busiest month. The Board of Directors of the Woman's Club has been busy. After many months of discussion, the Board voted to adopt revised by-laws for our club. Our by-laws are the framework by which we run our club and they meet the requirements of our status as a 501c3 organization. The by-laws are found on our website under the Membership tab or you can request a copy from Kyle or look at them in her office.

The Nominating Committee is busy too. It takes many members to run our club and maintain the high standards for our programs and activities, our house and grounds as well as our records, correspondence, charitable giving and running the business side of our club. So if you are approached to serve on the board or a committee, please give it serious consideration. We are ultimately an organization of busy volunteers. This will also be a busy month for our Ways and Means Committee. One of our big fundraisers for charity is the Winter Park Woman's Show on February 20. We sell tables to individuals who in turn sell their goods and services to people who attend the show. This year we will have our own table thanks to Natalie Hill, our Ways and Means Chair. Natalie is a talented seamstress who is donating original household items to be sold with proceeds going to our charities. (In case you haven't heard, Natalie made a new cover for our piano.) In order for the Woman's Show to be a success we need all of our members to turn out and support it. George's Gourmet Cookies and Catering will be providing lunch. The more people who attend, the happier the vendors will be and the more likely they will come back next year. I know that our members love the work we do supporting various charities. This is one way you can help us to do that. We hope you spread the word about the Winter Park Woman's Show and bring your family members, neighbors and friends.

So let's get busy.

*Cynthia*

Dear Members,

Our 101st year is flying by and in March of 2016, we will elect new board officers to replace those who have served two years. First, we need a nominating committee. Please let me know if you are willing to serve on that committee. The responsibilities take place during January and February, so it will not take very long. It is a very important job. Please volunteer by calling me at [407-740-7758](tel:407-740-7758) or emailing me at [scblossey@cfl.rr.com](mailto:scblossey@cfl.rr.com).

Many thanks, Sandra Blossey

## **February Programs**



### **February 4, 2:00pm: The Inside Story of Saving Winter Park's Capen-Showalter House**

Debbie Komanski, Executive Director of the Albin Polasek Museum and Frank Roark, general contractor are ready to tell you all the stories about the recent save, move (by water), and restoration of the historic 1885 Capen-Showalter House in Winter Park. **Debbie Komanski:** Debbie Komanski has been Executive Director of the Albin Polasek Museum & Sculpture Gardens since January, 2004. She received her degree from the University of Central Florida in Orlando, Florida. As a native of Winter Park and graduate of Winter Park High School, she brings a deep

knowledge of the cultural arts and his-tory of the area to the Albin Polasek Museum & Sculpture Gardens and the City of Winter Park. Over the past 30+ years, Komanski has served as president of a number of organizations including the UCF Alumni Association, Volunteer Center of Central Florida, Town and Gown Council as well as held other key leadership positions on multiple Boards of Directors for non-profit organizations and schools in the community. **Frank Roark:** Frank Roark is a certified general contractor CGC048707 specializing in historic restoration, light commercial and residential construction. His recent professional history includes the relocation of the historic Capen House for the Polasek Museum, restoration of the historic Waterhouse Museum for the City of Maitland, restoration of Casa Feliz Historic Home Museum and the Barbour Apartments, renovation and addition to the existing Winter Park Country Club Golf Pro Shop for the City of Winter Park, and the remodel of existing bungalows and new construction of homes in Central Florida. Frank graduated from the University of Central Florida with a BA in General Studies and an MBA in Business Administration. He is an active member of the board of Casa Feliz overseeing maintenance of the house, has served as a board member at Crealde School of Art and volunteers his services at the Albin Polasek Museum and Sculpture Gardens.

**\*\*Husbands are welcome to join us for this program\*\***

### **February 11, 2:00pm: Nano science UCF with Dr. Sudipta Seal**

**Program:** Dr. Sudipta Seal will be giving an update on the fascinating world of Nano science and the important research going on in our backyard...at the University of Central Florida.

**Speaker:** Dr, Sudipta Seal, Ph.D., Pegasus Professor, University Distinguished Professor Director, NanoScience Technology Center and Advanced Materials Processing & Analysis Center Nano Initiative Coordinator at UCF Director of Surface Engineering & Nanotech Lab, DURIP Nanomanufacturing Lab Professor in Materials Science & Engineering with Secondary Joint appointment in the College of Medicine Research Focus: Functionals Materials Processing including Nano/Micro, Bulk Nanomanufacturing, Nanobiotechnology, Surface Engineering, Coatings, Nanoenergetics, Nanotoxicity, and Advanced Analytical Tools

### **February 18, 11:30am: Lite Lunch with Winter Park High School Belle Chanson Choir**

**Program:** Belle Chanson is the advanced women's choir at Winter Park High School. The ensemble consists of 50 singers including 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade women.

**Group Leader:** Joseph Kemper is the associate director of choral activities at Winter Park High School. He is the founding director of the Winter Park Community Chorus. He received his music degree from St Olaf's College. His is the artistic director of the Orlando Lutheran Cantata Choir.

### **February 25, 2:00pm: Winter Park Update with Commissioner Carolyn Cooper**

**Program:** Winter Park the Year in Pictures. The economy has improved and Winter Park has seen lots of development opportunities over the past year. Come here about all the excitement.

**Speaker:** Carolyn is a WPWC member and has served on the Winter Park City Commission for the past 6 years. Previously, Carolyn served on the Winter Park Planning and Zoning Commission and the Comprehensive Growth Management Plan Task Force. Carolyn and her husband Ned have five children, three raised here in Winter Park.

We would like to thank Central Florida Vocal Arts for making our 101st birthday so memorable. An audience of over 100 enjoyed an updated production of The Wily Women of Winter Park.



#### Membership Yearbook Additions and Changes:

Sue Foreman  
1940 Summerland Ave.  
Winter Park, FL 32789  
407-740-8410  
C: 407-3423242  
[Sueforeman@aol.com](mailto:Sueforeman@aol.com)

Jacqueline Johnson  
1600 Alabama Drive, Unit 102  
Winter Park, FL 32789  
407-647-4789  
C: 407-491-5011  
[jbwntprk@earthlink.net](mailto:jbwntprk@earthlink.net)

Ginny Seel  
C: 336-540-4239

Jacqueline Davis  
3183 Players View Circle  
Longwood, FL 32779

#### Hospitality

On Thursday, Feb.18, we have the lite lunch at 11:30. Nancy Miles is bringing potato/cheddar soup. If anyone has a special recipe you'd like to serve at the lunch, let Monica or Jan know. Thanks to all of you who volunteer to bring in goodies for each Thursday meeting and pour or greet. The sign-up board is on the back table and is passed around at the beginning of each meeting. Don't forget to sign the member sign-in sheet when you arrive.





## SPOTLIGHT ON A NEWCOMER: Suzanne Musashe



Our family has lived in Winter Park for 37 years. As long time residents we have never had any regrets choosing Winter Park as our home. At the time of our move, my husband was a pilot for a major airline and I was a flight attendant. We could have basically picked anywhere in the country to live since we would be commuting no matter where we lived. We wanted warm weather and decided on Florida and then chose Winter Park. We felt it was a great little town and very family oriented. We found both to be true.

My husband, Nicholas and I have three children: Jacki, who is 41 (has given us our only grandchild, Slaten), Andrew who is 33 and Derek who is 30. Of our three children, Jacki and her husband Andy live in Maitland about a quarter mile from us and are very active with their many friends within Dommerich. Andrew

divides his time between Winter Park and Memphis, TN, and Derek and his wife, Caitlin live in Santa Barbara, CA. We are a close-knit family and truly have enjoyed our kids as children and now adults. My youngest son in high school called me "a hands on mom". I am not sure if that was a compliment or not.

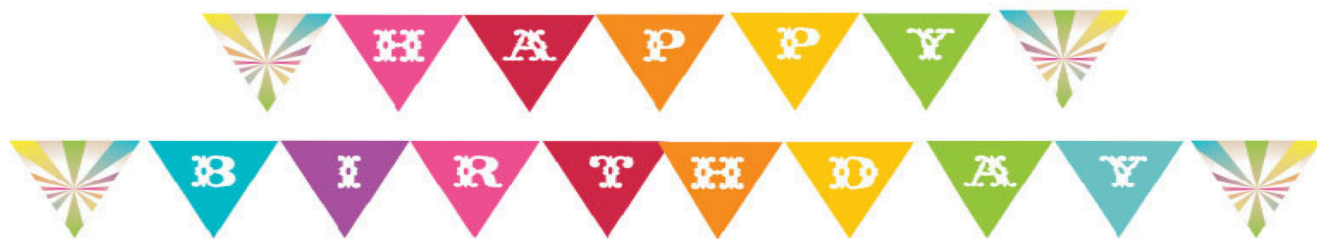
Slaten, our only grandson, is 9 and we spoil him completely. Before he was born I had my nursery set up in our home before my daughter and he has his own room with a queen bed in what use to be his mother's room. He has gone with us on many vacations and he will tell you his favorite is our time in Alaska. With our 2nd son getting married in February and our other son graduated from grad school, we are hoping that maybe another grandchild will be in the near future.

We own a residential property management company, The Jander Group, Inc. that manages single-family homes, condos and apartments. We have had our business for almost years and it is located on Howell Branch in Winter Park. We also have a branch office in Memphis, TN. Our daughter, Jacki and son Andrew both work for us. Our son Derek recently received his doctorate in Neuroscience and is looking for a job.

My husband and I like to travel and have probably been to most states in the U.S., which of course helped being former airline employees and we have traveled to Europe as well. Because we have our own business, cruising has been a great way to get away over the years without cell phones. I seem to have a hidden talent and one, which I very much enjoy in finding great vacations at great prices for my friends, children and us. I laugh and tell my friends it is a gift! We also spend quite a bit of time in New Smyrna Beach at our small 1960's beach house and love that we can share it with our family and friends. I am not an exercise person but love to walk on the beach so it helps me stay in shape and healthy. At least that is my excuse in spending a lot of time there. My husband and I are active members of East Coast Believers Church and have a home group at our home.

I heard about the Woman's Club when I was inquiring about a place to have our son Andrew's wedding rehearsal dinner. He is getting married February 13th, which is right around the corner, and the rehearsal dinner is Feb. 11th. When I first looked at the Woman's Club it was under renovation, but loved it at first sight even with dust and workers. The finish product is fabulous. It is much bigger than we will need but most guests will be from out of town and I felt giving them a preview of our fine city in such a historical home would be very unique and special as well as being so close to Park Ave for a stroll. When I inquired about availability, everyone was so friendly and nice to me I felt this would be a group of woman I would like to be around. When my kids were at home and growing up I was one of those moms that were very involved. Now that they are grown and almost all married, I thought it time to become more social and get involved in my community.





Wishing a Happy Birthday to:

Monica Clarke 2/22  
Jeanie Freeman 2/25  
Laura Marsh 2/20  
Joyce Rogers 2/6  
Robbie Willenkin 2/9

Ann Croft 2/9  
Sara Johns 2/16  
Mary Ann Page 2/19  
Peggy Rogers 2/16

Kathy Dunn 2/27  
Annette Kelly 2/14  
Jessica Parker 2/18  
Marilyn Shepardson 2/12

## **Work and Shop the Woman's Show- February 20, 2016 9am-4pm!**

Volunteers needed to help with our Annual Woman's Show!

Please contact Judy Allen (407-376-4129) if you would like to help with this event. She will need volunteers to help with set up and logistics leading up to the show, as well as volunteers during the event!

The Woman's Show is a great way to showcase our club while helping local small businesses and entrepreneurs.

If you can't commit to volunteering, please be sure to come out and shop! There will be an array of wonderful businesses and products!

### **Announcing....**

**The Woman's Club Scholarship  
Applications are due**

**March 1, 2016**

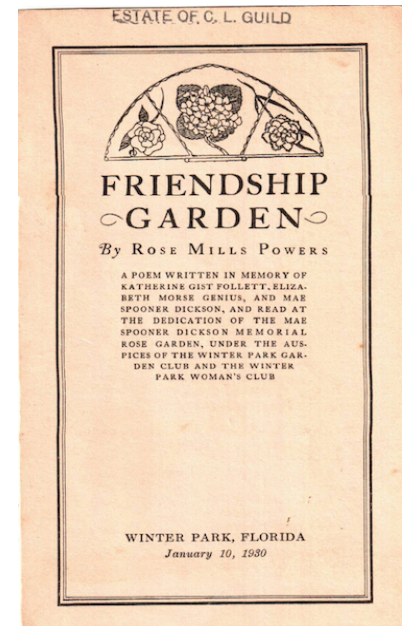
Applications may be downloaded from  
our website  
([www.womansclubofwinterpark.com](http://www.womansclubofwinterpark.com))  
or  
by contacting Kyle at 407 644-2237.

## ***Did You Know? By Kim Mould***

In the economic boom years of the 1920's, the majority of Americans, including those living or wintering in Winter Park, were enjoying a period of unprecedented prosperity. Although *The Jazz Age* brought challenges to traditional values, the stock market soared, industrial production roared, and personal debt rose to levels that reflected the new American way of buying on credit and buying big. Real estate, homes, automobiles, appliances, and furniture could be obtained with little money down. Speculating and buying on margin? No problem. Then, by Black Tuesday, October 29, 1929, reality hit, the stock market crashed, and all those previously friendly banks started calling in loans. The Great Depression, as explored in the PBS presentations of **American Experience: Riding the Rails** and **The Great Depression – Surviving the Dust Bowl**, “was the worst economic collapse in the history of the modern industrial world.” By March 1930, over 3.2 million Americans were unemployed and billions in stock values had simply “vanished.”

On the afternoon of January 10, 1930, however, Woman's Club of Winter Park and Winter Park Garden Club members were still optimistically focusing on gentler, kinder things including friendship and communal beautification through gardening. The Winter Park Garden Club was originally founded in 1921 – 1922, according to the Winter Park Public Library Archives, as the Garden Committee of the Woman's Club of Winter Park. Although it became a separate club in 1923, the Garden Club shared members and space with the Woman's Club, including sponsoring in the Woman's Clubhouse the first flower and garden show in Florida in 1922.

As the ladies gathered, they “joined,” according to a Winter Park newspaper article dated January 16, 1930, “in exercises at West Park, dedicating the rose garden to the memory of Mae Spooner Dickson” who was a charter member of the Garden Club. In gratitude and with affection, club members also dedicated a memorial sun dial and a bench in honor of Mrs. Dickson, who had died on November 10, 1928 shortly after taking on the responsibility as Garden Club “chairman” of a rose garden that had been established by the Winter Park Chamber of Commerce in the southwest end of the park near the train station. “Mrs. Dickson and her parents, the late Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Spooner, were among those citizens who manifested deep interest in the better development of this community.” Rose Mills Powers wrote a beautiful memorial poem, which was read by Mrs. Kraft, a copy of which has a place of honor in the Woman's Club Archives.



Gorgeous photographs found in the Rollins College Archival Collection document Mae Spooner's wedding, on March 27, 1915, to James T. Dickson at the Spooner Family winter home, “Weatogue,” located on Lake Osceola's north shore. The bridal bouquets, including that of bridesmaid Mrs. Bessie (Elizabeth) Morse Genius, Charles Hosmer Morse's daughter, were spectacular floral arrangements. Sadly, James Dickson died only five years after the wedding.

By April 28, 1949, the Friendship Memory Garden had been relocated to its present location on Woman's Club property where, in addition to the sundial and bench bearing Mae Spooner Dickson's name, the Garden Club dedicated a memorial bronze plate tablet. Today, for members and visitors exploring the beautiful clubhouse grounds, these poignant memorial pieces are reminders of those long-gone “ladies of the club” and their gracious pursuit of friendship and communal beauty during a time of growing economic darkness.

**The Woman's Club of Winter Park, Inc. Presents**



## **The Winter Park Woman's Show**

**February 20, 2016**

**9am - 4pm**

**The Woman's Club of Winter Park  
419 S. Interlachen, Winter Park**

**For information, call 407-644-2237 or 407-376-4129**

**Rent a table to show and sell your products or services**

**Shop with your friends and family!**

**Reservation Form on the back of this announcement.**



# Winter Park Woman's Show

Feb. 20, 2016 9am - 4pm

Rental is \$100 per table; tables are 6 ft long. You are welcome to share a table with vendor of your choice.

Please call 407-376-4129 with any questions

Your name\_\_\_\_\_

Name of company\_\_\_\_\_

Type of product or service\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone\_\_\_\_\_

Email\_\_\_\_\_

Web site\_\_\_\_\_

Will you need an electrical outlet? (First come, first served)\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Check here if you have questions and would like to receive a phone call.

You will need to bring your own table cover.

Please make out check to Woman's Club of Winter Park and mail with this application (or copy of it) to

Woman's Club of Winter Park  
P.O. Box 1433  
Winter Park, FL 32790-2237