

THE WOMAN'S CLUB OF WINTER PARK, INC.

MAY 2019 HIGHLIGHTS



President: Judy Allen
President Elect: Nancy Miles
Club Office: 407-644-2237

Email: info@womansclubofwinterpark.com



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

It is with a sense of humble awe that I begin the next two years serving as President of the Woman's Club. Without the leadership and participation of the wonderful women who came before us, our Woman's Club would not be the vibrant organization that it is. I cannot express enough gratitude for Judy's calm and steady leadership for the most recent two years, and before her Cynthia Gerken, who led us through our big renovation and before that Sandra Blossey, who ensured our ability to fundraise and work as a non-profit organization. When I talk to Kim Mould, our own club historian, I hear of the many other past presidents, board members and members who worked through the years to keep our club an active presence in the community. Yet another special thanks to Judy Allen who will be moving into the role of Treasurer which is a very important and time consuming role and one that is vital to the club's financial well being.

I cannot express enough thanks to our board, members and staff who work to ensure that ...

- our **Historic Clubhouse** is maintained for present and future use
- our **Grounds** are a reflection of our appreciation for the outdoors,
- our **Membership** rolls continue to be vital
- our **Scholarship** mission continues to help local young people get their educations, this year with more financial assistance than ever
- our **Hospitality** at meetings is always very special and welcoming
- our **luncheon** gatherings are so enjoyable
- our **Charitable Giving** committee works so very hard to be able to share monies with other hard working local groups
- our **Programs** have the most interesting and informative speakers, performers and educators
- our **Rules** and legal documents are up to date and reflect current needs and requirements
- our **Yearbook** is a wonderful tool for members to stay in touch
- our club **Archives** are maintained for present and future use
- our **Financial** well being allows us to complete our missions for now and for future years
- our **Special Events** allows the public to visit our clubhouse and learn more about our missions

Our board will be meeting on the first Wednesday of each month. You are all welcome to attend. We want to be available for your thoughts and concerns regarding the club and welcome suggestions. Our priority for the next meeting will be setting the calendar for the next year so that our Programs, Hospitality and other hard working committees can do their planning.

Nancy Miles

Past President's End of Year Report

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

As I began the office of President two years ago, two of my goals were to increase charitable giving and partner with other groups in Central Florida. I think that the Woman's Club has been successful in both areas. By reaching out to the community in service areas and supporting Winter Park vendors, we have made the community more aware of the how the Woman's Club of Winter Park, Inc. is so valuable in so many ways. We supported our usual charities, but added others such as Jones High School Foundation, The Victim's Service Center and The Winter Park Housing Authority Pantry.

For the past two years Barbara Hughes (Scholarship Chair) and I have worked to increase the revenue from our investments supporting our scholarships. There were so many deserving students and we wanted to see if our funds could produce more revenue. This year we will realize approximately \$42,000 to award to deserving scholars which is \$7000 more than last year. Sixteen new students were selected to receive scholarship aid this year as well as 6 returning students. It is always such a blessing to see and meet these amazing students at the scholarship reception in December. Also, the scholarship committee has relinquished their 501c3 status and again become of the Woman's Club.

Our programs have been outstanding this year thanks to the guidance of JoAnne Bandy and Deborah Kirkwood. Our current membership is 161 women and can be attributed to the excellent programs that we have experienced each week.

One of our biggest challenges this year has been to reach our required community support ratio for being a 501c3 organization. Thank you to Mabel Rasmussen and Arlene Bridges (our Financial Chair and Treasurer) for the many hours you have given to this effort. We've learned to reclassify our rentals, collect sales receipts for our charitable giving projects and are working with a new accounting firm to meet this challenge. When Arlene Bridges and I met with our CPA a couple of weeks ago, they were very encouraged that we would meet our community support ratio requirement this year.

Two years ago I introduced to the Woman's Club the concept of a member-outreach committee. I think that this has been one of the best things we've done. It is a reminder that although we are many members with many talents, we are one family and therefore, need to care for one another. For the last two years we've prepared meals for women where assistance was needed, provided rides, cards, prayers, encouragement as well as 25 Valentine boxes of cookies and chocolates to members or former members that we hadn't seen in awhile. This act of kindness brought joy to so many ladies and made them aware that they had not been forgotten. The Woman's Club has always been charitable to the community, but we needed to consider how to be charitable to one another. Through these acts of kindness, we become better versions of ourselves.

I thank each member of the Board for all their time and efforts in making the Woman's Club so successful as well as committee chairpersons and committee members. You've made my job so much easier with all the many things that you do each week. Our club staff of Aycha, Chip and Freddie are exceptional.

And finally, I thank all of you for allowing me to serve as your President for the last two years. It has truly been an honor and a privilege. Our club membership is truly a wonderful group of women. Thank you for your support and join me in welcoming and supporting our new president, Nancy Miles.

Judy Allen

Announcements & Events

May Birthdays!

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY

Esther Allen 5/11	Judy Allen 5/27
Julie Caton 5/15	Margaret Fail 5/26
Joan Flewelling 5/21	Mary Forman 5/19
Guinevere Grier 5/16	Sharyn Jontz 5/29
Ruth McDaniel 5/15	Nancy Miles 5/26
Kim Mould 5/8	Carol Nawrocki 5/3
Kay Simmons 5/12	Sue Springer 5/10
Cathy Wallace 5/24	Rose Walleze 5/5

Membership Annual Renewals are Due

The Woman's Club Annual Membership Renewals are due and the annual rate is \$100 for the year. Please find the membership form at the end of this newsletter. Contact Aycha with any questions.

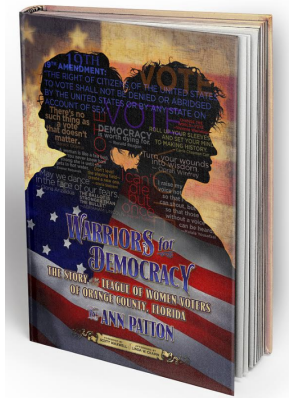


The Woman's Club of Winter Park Programs Committee will be meeting on Tue., May 7th, at 1PM at the Woman's Club for the 2019-2020 Programs discussions and planning. All welcome to attend. We welcome suggestions for another year of informative and entertaining calendar of events at the Woman's Club.

Artisan Fall Showcase Committee

We have set aside Saturday, November 2, 2019 for our Fall Artisan Showcase. Nancy Miles would love to gather a committee to look at options for advertising and other ideas.

This time of year should be great for anyone selling items that can be given as gifts, worn as accessories or used to decorate your table over the holidays. Want to help? Please email nancymiles@gmail.com



Warriors for Democracy
Sunday, May 5, 2:30
@ Winter Park Public Library

WARRIORS FOR DEMOCRACY: The Story of the League of Women Voters of Orange County, FL. Eighty years ago this spring, 25 women (several from WCWP) started the local League, now 900 members strong and the largest in the US. Joy Wallace Dickinson and Barbara Liston will present the Powerful story and lead discussion. The new book **WARRIORS FOR DEMOCRACY** will be available and author will be there for discussion and autographing.

Did You Know?

In 1915, two years after the General Federation of Women's Clubs voted to give woman suffrage its official endorsement, the Florida Federation of Women's Clubs officially endorsed suffrage at the November convention. As an active member of the Florida Federation, the Woman's Club of Winter Park became an extension of one of the most powerful organizations for women in Florida and provided members of the Woman's Club of Winter Park the exciting opportunity to work for suffrage at the local and state level.

The national Suffrage Movement's primary focus on obtaining the ballot and its general lack of proper respectability and acceptance in the South often reduced its appeal to Southern women. In Florida, however, joining a woman's club was still the socially acceptable "thing to do." Thus many dedicated suffragists utilized the moderate club environment as an additional platform for their suffrage work. One of the most influential suffragists in Florida was Jacksonville resident Mrs. May Mann Jennings, wife of Governor William S. Jennings and the President of the Florida Federation of Women's Clubs. In Winter Park, Mrs. Susan Dyer, Woman's Club of Winter Park President from 1918 until her death in 1921, played an active role in the Suffrage Movement. A special suffrage edition of *The State* newspaper, dated 1914, lists Mrs. Susan Dyer as President of the Equal Suffrage League of Winter Park.

As a direct result of the highly visible and valuable work American women were performing in support of the Home front during World War I, President Woodrow Wilson changed his stand on women's voting rights and in 1918 actively sought support for woman suffrage. Encouraged by this shift at the Federal level, Susan Dyer formed a Woman's Club of Winter Park committee focused on suffrage and sent to the Florida State Legislature a petition "requesting municipal suffrage for women." A copy of the June 12, 1919 edition of *The Winter Park Post* newspaper, found in the Winter Park Public Library Archives, includes a fascinating article submitted by club member Grace Edwards outlining the Municipal Suffrage Bill, explaining who could vote, property owners over 21 years of age, and how to register. In her words, "Go personally to the Town Hall during the above hours, smile sweetly and tell the Clerk that you desire to register. Then take the pen firmly in hand and as legibly as possible inscribe your name in the book, breathe a sigh of relief, smile again sweetly and make room for the next voter." She also noted that when club members canvassed the town, some confronted difficulties as "opponents of the measure had tried to stir up feeling in the matter especially among the 'colored' voters giving them to understand it was for white women only." On July 8, 1919, in what was referred to as "an innovation in municipal affairs," women, including several club members, voted for the first time in Winter Park in a municipal election.

The January 8, 1920 issue of *The Winter Park Post* noted that the "Woman's Club has unusual meeting" with "Mrs. Dyer's strong appeal to women voters to take a real and intelligent part in the coming town election." Club archival records indicate when equal suffrage was granted "the first to register [to vote] were Club members," and "to further commemorate the 'coming of age' of women, the Civics Committee of the Club hosted a party at the Town Hall to which all women voters were invited."

In the years following the granting of voting rights for American women, the 19th Amendment of the Constitution was ratified at the Federal level on August 18, 1920, the Woman's Club of Winter Park continued to support the important work of the League of Women Voters by urging women to register and to vote in all elections. The April 26, 1939 issue of the *Orlando Evening Star* even contained a short notice entitled "Women to Form Voters League" where "All women, both Democratic and Republican, are invited to attend an organization meeting at which time an Orlando-Winter Park Chapter of the National League of Women Voters will be organized." This meeting was held at the Woman's Club of Winter Park clubhouse!



For some club members, however, the fight for suffrage and its application of voting rights remained a secondary endeavor with, instead, a traditional woman's club agenda of social, intellectual, and civic pursuits remaining in the forefront. An interesting side note...most Southern states actively and adamantly opposed giving women the right to vote, in fact, the Florida Legislature did not formally ratify the 19th Amendment until May 13, 1969!

Kim Mould

Woman's Club of Winter Park Board of Directors 2019-2020



- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| President | Nancy Miles |
| VP/President-Elect | Natalie Hill |
| Recording Secretary | Sharyn Jontz |
| Corresponding Secretary | Sue Luongo |
| Yearbook/Website | Churchill Thompson |
| Treasurer | Judy Allen |
| Assistant Treasurer | Sheila Spitler |
| Programs | JoAnne Bandy |
| Finance | Mabel Rasmussen |
| Scholarship | Deborah Kirkwood |
| House | Karen Rodda |
| Grounds | Glenda McClure |
| Charitable Giving | Christine Bush |
| Membership | Sandra Blossey & Julie Caton |
| Ways & Means | Judi Andrews |
| Historian | Kim Mould |
| Parliamentarian | Meredith Murphy |
| Hospitality | Kathy Dunn |



IN MEMORY OF OUR MEMBERS THAT HAVE PASSED THIS YEAR

Catherine Balance

Barbara Farquharson

Phyllis Ann Fielding

Constance Frazier

Carolyn Goldman

Winnie Hartsock

Mollie Magee

Sue Maxey

Susie Stone

Ginny Seel

**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 -----(\$100)

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

Voluntary donation-----

Total _____