



Newsletter: February 2017

February Club Meeting

Our February meeting on Tuesday **February 14th** will be a general meeting, when our speaker will be **John Hubbs**, who will be speaking on the topic of "Stream-Wise to be Bay-Wise". John is the Bay-Wise Gardening representative for Carroll County, which is under the umbrella of the Master Gardener program through the Agricultural Extension Office. Since all the run-off water from our yards and gardens eventually flows into the Chesapeake Bay, we each have a responsibility and an opportunity to help our environment. The Bay-Wise program seeks to inform and then reward people who take the time to follow the Bay-Wise suggestions and make their yards and gardens more environmentally safe and friendly for all inhabitants. You won't want to miss this informative presentation!

Our hostesses will be the **CONSERVATION CSP**.

As usual, we'll meet at the **Non-Profit Building** on Clifton Boulevard in Westminister. Refreshments and mingling start at **1pm** and our meeting starts at 1:30pm.

Don't forget to wear your **name tag** and to **carpool** if you can.

A Message from Our Presidents: Barbara Humbert and Norma Jean Swam

Having the pleasure of visiting the Joppatowne club on January 12th, Barb reports that she was so pleased to share with them about our 105-year-old club. Yes, they do things a little differently than we do, but there is always "unity in diversity". Besides sharing with them about SHIP (Student Homelessness Initiative Partnership) of Frederick County, I could tell them that 10 of our ladies supplied 4 elementary children with complete bedding sets (sheets, blankets and comforters) within a day, and later, clothing was provided for a young man in high school. I was also happy to report that on a snowy club day, three of our ladies who are in their nineties came to our meeting.

As we begin this month with an emphasis of showing and exhibiting acts of **KINDNESS**, here are some suggestions:

1. Send valentines to our veterans or those in the service.
2. Visit some of our members who are not able to join us at our meetings any longer.
3. Surprise someone who could use an uplifting gift like a dozen cookies or some fruit or plan a shopping trip.
4. Call or email a college or childhood friend and share wonderful memories.
5. Take a large-print book to a friend who has a vision problem with regular print in this stage of their journey.
6. Leave a valentine's card on someone's windshield.



7. Hug someone.
8. Treat someone to lunch.

February is heart month, so when you enter our meeting on the 14th, please pick up a heart and write an act of kindness you have done on the paper heart. Give it to MARTHA or MARY LOU. They will hang it on our heart filled branch.

BE SURE TO WEAR SHADES OF RED TO THE MEETING ON THE 14TH.

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!



State Board of Directors Meeting

Norma Jean and Barb remind all members that the State Board of Directors Meeting will be held on Tuesday **February 21st** at the GFWC Woman's Club of Chevy Chase, Maryland, Inc. Clubhouse. Chevy Chase is hosting. The speaker, **Alexandrea Austin**, will present information on **Operation Fill the Pantry**. Please see attached list of suggested donations to bring to the meeting. The total cost to attend is **\$18 (\$15 for lunch and \$3 to register)**. Please see the Meal sheet in order to give Barb Gunther your choice. If you'd like to attend, let Barb Gunther know by **February 5th** so she can include you in the reservation.

Fundraising Committee

Bev Humbert reminds us that on Friday **March 17th**, the St. Patrick's Day luncheon and dramatic presentation will be held at the Church of the Brethren in Westminster at 12 noon. Sign-up sheets with your sandwich selection will be available at our February meeting. The cost is **\$15** for a sandwich and dessert. Mrs. Mikele Stillman from the Hanover Historical Society will present **Alice Roosevelt Longworth**. It promises to be a wonderful time.





Carroll's Labor Day Flea Market on April 15th

Our next Flea Market /Yard Sale will be Saturday **April 15th** at the Shipley Arena in Westminster. We have 6 tables again this time! The money collected will go towards the scholarship fund. Here's how you can help:

What to Donate

We want this to be our best sale yet, so please clean out your closets and cupboards. As you look for good things to donate, remember that some of the best-selling items for us have been: jewelry packaged in small baggies; household items; toys; books; movie DVDs; and some small furniture.

Drop-Off Location and Time

You can drop-off the items you want to donate from 12pm to 6pm on Friday, **April 14th**.

Questions?

Contact Norma Jean for more information at [410-871-0741](tel:410-871-0741) or njSwam@comcast.net.

Volunteer Hours and Contributions – New Form

Norma Jean and Barb ask that we use a standardized form to keep track of our volunteer hours and contributions on behalf of the Club. Our hope is that this will help us all in tracking our club activities during the year for each Committee and CSP we serve. This form was circulated in 2015, but we are sending it again since this is a new year.

We've attached a log form for your use called Club Volunteer Hour Log. It's in a Word document format. You can print out as many of the forms as you need to keep a written record by hand. Or, you can store copies of it on your computer and make your entries there as you go.

This will help in year-end reporting because you'll have been keeping track of your work all year long. At year-end, you can just make copies of your hand-written sheets or print out your electronic versions of your completed forms to give to the chairs of each committee you've served on. Our suggestion is to prepare one form for each CSP or committee that you support.

Please let us know if you need any help with these forms or how to use them.

Arts CSP

Clare Berent reports the following:

Maryland Art, Photography and Needle Art Exhibit:

This year's State Convention will be held from **April 29th** to **May 1st** at the Crown Plaza in Annapolis. As you know, *The Maryland Clubwoman* is not being published at the moment due to serious health issues among those who organize it. As a result, we do not have a due date or the rules and requirements for those artists who wish to enter in the annual exhibit. Barbara Humbert has been in contact with State who said they will get the information out as soon as possible.



Typically, the due date is **March 1st** for entry forms to be received by the organizers. We recommend that any artist planning to enter this year's show prepare their work and have it ready to go as soon as we get the information. Please let Clare Berent know if you will be participating so you will be sure to be notified.

Concert:

Carroll Live on Stage presents **Victoria Banks**, Canada's reigning queen of country music, for its third concert of the season on Tuesday **February 21st** at **7:30pm** at Westminster High School. She is one of the most respected artists in the Canadian music industry. A subscription for the two remaining concerts can be purchased for **\$35** at the door or on-line at www.carrollliveonstage.org. A single concert ticket is **\$25**.

Education CSP

Easter Literacy Baskets

Jackie Hering reports that the **EDUCATION CSP** is planning to fill 12 Easter Literacy Baskets for Shepherd's Staff. Please bring your monetary donations for this project to our February and March meetings.

Dr. Seuss Birthday Celebration

Jackie also reminds us that the dates we've chosen to read to children in classrooms for our annual Dr. Seuss Reading Celebration will be Friday **March 3rd** and Monday **March 6th**. Jackie will have reader sign-up sheets available at the February meeting. Please check your calendars and volunteer if you can. We'll need about 80 readers and it's always a lot of fun!

Used Book Table

Our Used Book Table will be open for business at the February meeting. We hope many of you have exhausted your supply of reading materials over the past few weeks and will be looking for new titles. Remember that we'll use the proceeds from this sale to purchase books for the Dr. Seuss birthday celebration.

Home Life CSP

Mary Dudderar reports the following:

1. Nan Sanders kindly made beautiful scarves for students at Taneytown Elementary School. The school expressed gratitude for our continued support.
2. February is Teen Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Family and Children's Services will share some handouts for us at our February meeting.
3. Kelley Rainey, Director of the Safe House, shared with us that the Safe House is in dire need of laundry baskets. We provided 5 of them.



4. Planning continues for a Cooking Lesson Luncheon in April with the Carroll County Career and Technology Center's Culinary Arts Program. More information to follow at the February meeting.

What you don't KNOW can HURT her.
What you LEARN can HELP her.
What you DO can SAVE her.

Carroll County Children in Transition Committee

Carol Graff reports that the newly-formed Carroll County Children in Transition Committee was approved by the Executive Board in November 2016. The members include Norma Jean Swam, Barbara Gunther, Linda Kjeldgaard, Nancy Porter, Jean Picardi, Peggy Slater, and Carol Graff.

The committee held its first meeting on **December 2nd 2016** to develop procedures regarding receiving and filling requests. The mission of this committee is to help homeless children in the Carroll County Public School (CCPS) system by filling the immediate needs of these students and families as they begin to get on the road to stability and security.

Unfortunately, there are currently 109 children in the school system that does not have a permanent home. We have partnered with the CCPS' Supervisor of Student Services, Ms Kathy Green. Kathy will receive the requests from the PPW's (Pupil Personnel Workers) and forward these to the committee for fulfillment.

The club members will receive an e-mail from Carol Graff outlining the requested need for a homeless child. The donations for this request can be delivered to Norma Jean Swam or Barbara Gunther at their homes. If you wish to make a monetary donation, you can do so by delivering a check to Barbara Gunther. Please let Norma Jean Swam know what item you will be donating. Don't forget to keep your receipts for tax purposes.

Prior to Christmas, we were able to provide a student with a gift certificate to Old Navy for clothing. Recently, the committee sent out an urgent request for bedding for 4 homeless children. This request was filled in 3 short days and the committee would like to thank everyone who contributed to this request! We even obtained extra sheets! The quick response was greatly appreciated.

We then received a request in mid-January for a number of clothing items for a young man in high school in need of the following:

1. Two pair of black jeans, size 30x30
2. Black dress slacks. 30x30
3. Plain dark T shirts, size medium
4. Spring jacket, size medium

He has also requested boots, sneakers, prom tickets and a yearbook. These items will be covered by committee funds. If you would like to donate cash, please contact Barbara Gunther



at 410-857-7427 or bgunther933@comcast.net.

Our committee members responded with such generosity and speed that it was truly heartwarming!. The GFWC Women's Club of Westminster can make a difference in the life of a homeless child.

Book Browsers Committee

Gini Bosse reports that Book Browsers will meet on Monday **February 20th** at the home of Betty Mathias. We will discuss the book *Women in White* by Wilkie Collins. Discussion leader will be Gini Bosse. All are welcome!

CSPs and Committees with No Reports this Month

- ✓ BY-LAWS COMMITTEE
- ✓ BENEFICIARY COMMITTEE
- ✓ INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH CSP
- ✓ PUBLIC ISSUES CSP
- ✓ PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

Junior Woman's Club of Westminster (JWC)

Nancy Porter reports the following:

Junior Woman's Club Mid-Winter Rally --

THEME: Get Lost in a Good Book

DATE: Saturday, February 11, 2017

TIME: 9:00-10:00 a.m. -- check-in

10:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m. short meeting and day of service

PLACE: Boys & Girls Club of Westminster, 25 Union Street, Westminster, Md. 21157

Please see the attached flyer for more details about donations, lunch and cost

Member Birthdays this Month

Join us in celebrating the birthdays of these fine fellow club-women:

- Carol Shook..... February 7
- Barbara Peck..... February 10
- Nancy McAllister..... February 12
- Connie Kidder..... February 13





New Members

We heartily welcome these new members to **GFWC Westminster**.

Bonnie Caton:

..... 211 Longstreet Drive
Gettysburg, PA 17325
(cell) 443-324-4584
bcaton@mcdaniel.edu

Newsletter Deadline

- ✓ Our deadline for submitting items you'd like to have included in our **March 2017** newsletter is **Thursday February 23rd**
- ✓ Be sure to read our little **Fine Print Box** at the end of each Newsletter!

The Fine Print: About Our Newsletter

Our **GFWC Westminster Newsletter** editors are **Debbie Schaeffer** (assemble submissions, initial draft) and **Becky Barbour** (final editing and formatting, email distribution). We publish the newsletter **ten times per year**, with a break during the summer months of June and July. We **distribute** the newsletters to our members on or about the **first Tuesday** of the month, or one week before each of our meetings. **Submit** information for an edition of our newsletter to **Debbie Schaeffer** (m-dschae@comcast.net) by the **25th of the month** preceding publication.