



GFWC Civic Club Of Oakland Newsletter

Fall/Winter 2014

The Presidents' Corner

The theme for the Civic Club of Oakland for the years 2014-2016 is **"Love in Action"** and demonstrations of this theme have been swirling everywhere! In July we had over 60 members and guests attend a freezing cold picnic in hats and mittens. Coffee was way more popular than iced tea at this event! But we came together and celebrated the summer and each other in spite of the cold wind.

In August we rejoiced in our love of volunteering by sharing the Maryland Governor's Volunteer Service Award recognition for our club's 103 years of serving our community. We also distributed our club's yearbook so we can easily stay in touch with each other.

The Craft Club in September continued to share the love by making 275 tray favors for the nursing home residents that we serve every holiday. Our Book Club met and exchanged their news and views on the latest book we had all read. The Fundraising Committee is forging ahead on three different fronts so that we can raise money for the non-profit organizations in our community. They have come up with some very creative ideas for increasing our revenue.

October always brings the flurry of activities that is the Antique Show, our major fundraising effort of the year. Our members pitched in and hauled tables, set up booths for vendors, made soup and sandwiches, baked, baked, and baked goodies to sell, worked at the raffle table, front door, and cash register. And then at the end they took it all apart and put it away!

As our club year winds down we look forward to participating in the Warm the Children program with our local newspaper. Our members volunteer to write thank you notes to every donor and to shop with each family to purchase warm clothing for all of their children. We typically serve over 350 children and write to over 300 donors.

In November we will recognize our Civic Club Woman of the Year. This person has served her club and her community with love and commitment above and beyond what any of us would expect. And in this club of truly exceptional women, that is a special person.

We are each amazing and wonderful women. We work hard, we love to help when and where we can, we love meeting new people and being with old friends. We attend, support, encourage, and help. We are the definition of **"Love in Action"**.

Sandy Hill
2014-2016 President
sandy_hill@comcast.net

Love in Action



GFWC Civic Club of Oakland, MD is an affiliate of the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

EDNA FORSYTH 2014 WOMAN OF THE YEAR



Our Woman of the Year was born in Chicago, and raised in Indiana where she did her undergraduate work. She moved to Virginia in 1958 with her young family, settling in Fairfax County. She completed her graduate work at American University. She was a school teacher who taught in the Fairfax Co. Public School System for 25 years. During that time she helped to test the then cutting edge idea of the "open" classroom. In addition, she was such a believer in mainstreaming special needs kids that she learned sign language and worked with the hearing-impaired. She even worked as a volunteer on the Nixon and Goldwater Presidential campaigns! She was one of the Girl Scout leaders for her daughter's troop. Her FUN roots began early, enjoying her work and sharing enthusiasm with her 3 children.

A career change into Sales took her into the bridal dress business whose top designer was her own sister-in-law. Headquartered in New York, she traveled around the country. Our Woman of the Year joined Civic Club in 2004, and was a member of the Executive Board, Chair of Special Projects. In addition, she spent 4 years on the Dove Center Board of Directors, and made a huge impact. She spearheaded a hugely successful fundraiser through the local Red Hat Ladies chapter. She organized a comical, fun calendar, featuring local "celebrity women" in their red hat garb. The calendars were printed with virtually no overhead costs, thanks to securing sponsorships for every page. The calendar sold all over Garrett County and raised over \$7,000 for the Dove Center's Capital Campaign, to go toward a new, larger facility.

She became Chair of the Capital Campaign Committee, where she used her personal connections to create a committee of volunteers who she believed could bring this project to fruition. Under her direction, the Committee raised nearly \$300,000 even in the wake of a discouraging economy. Heather Hanline, Executive Director of the Dove Center, wrote "She was involved with Dove Center public awareness, fundraising, budgeting and long-term planning activities. She volunteered countless hours of time to the agency. She truly put her heart and soul into her time with the Dove Center."

So many words describe this year's special woman – a dog lover, a great cook and party planner. She brings her friends into dinner groups so others can meet each other, while supporting a new restaurant that needs a boost.

She loves to knit and teaches knitting to all ages. Enjoys the game of bridge, and is Civic Club's Co-Chair of Special Projects. She also has been Chair of Civic Club's Nominating Committee. A new campaign to raise funds for the Garrett County Community always includes the word "FUN." So many volunteer hours caught the eye of the Elks Club which in 2008 honored her with their "Citizen of the Year" award.

Her loving family begins with a daughter who lives in Richmond, VA, one son living in Jacksonville, FL and another son in Phoenix, AR. She loves her visits to her 5 grandchildren but she bubbles when she tells you about her 4 great grandchildren and a 5th one due in May 2015. We are so pleased to honor this special member, Edna Forsyth, a "DAHLING" to all, as 2014 Civic Club Woman of the Year.

**Congratulation to Edna Forsyth
our 2014 Woman of the Year!**

Special Event

Festival of Trees "Button Party"

As you probably know, every year the Civic Club donates a decorated tree to the Festival of Trees held the Friday and Saturday after Thanksgiving. The proceeds from the festival benefit "The Dove Center", a Garrett County facility for abused persons.

The theme for this year's tree is 'Grandma's Button Box'. We asked members to raid their button boxes and received hundreds of buttons in every size, color and configuration imaginable.



On November 5 in the evening, we held a "Button Party" with wine and food at the home of Jean Tumbarello. After a bit of talking, eating and drinking, we started pinning and gluing the buttons on Styrofoam balls to make ornaments for the table top tree that had been already embellished with ribbon and lights by Jeannie Bailey.



From left: Suzanne Harle, Pat Mitchner, Pat Weiler, Anne Horowitz, and out of picture Sandy Smith (so sorry Sandy!)

After 2 hours of interesting conversation and much laughter, the group succeeded in putting together enough colorful ornaments to cover the tree.



From left: Kathy Brady, Judi Merriman, and Marilyn Ruymann



From left: Betty Ellington, BJ Gallagher, Edna Forsyth, Peggy Nelson, and Judi Schiff

Many thanks to all who attended – Judi Schiff, Sandy Smith, Pat Mitchner, BJ Gallagher, Betty Ellington, Marilyn Ruymann, Judi Merriman, Jean Tumbarello, Pat Weiler, Anne Horowitz, Edna Forsyth, Peggy Nelson, Suzanne Harle, and Kathy Brady

If you are here in the county on Saturday, November, 29th come to the Festival of Trees live auction 6:00pm (food provided by Dutch's for those bidding) at the Heritage Building on the GC Fairgrounds in McHenry and bid on a fabulous tree, wreath, or centerpiece. If you don't need one for yourself, there are several options to donate your winnings and delivery provided at no cost. All proceeds go to "The Dove Center" a very worthy cause!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

With **ten** new members this year, it is obvious that team work achieves results. The contest to see who could bring the most guests to our meetings provided an incentive and almost all of those guests have joined. These ladies have demonstrated the volunteer spirit by immediately becoming engaged in many Club projects. **Civic Club of Oakland welcomes you!**



Darlene Beachley



Donna Brenneman



Susan Maynard



Patricia Preston



Nadine Brinhendler



Cindy Bryden



Michele Terrell



Patricia Weiler



Lynn Featherston



Kathy Gera

“Bring a Friend” Winner to Be Announced!

In an effort to recruit new members, Civic Club is offering one year of free membership! How do you qualify for this great prize? Starting with the March 2014 membership meeting, we have been keeping track of how many guests each member brings to the 10 general membership meetings. The one member who has brought the most guests over the course of the club year will receive their 2015 dues for free! In case of a tie, we have decided to draw from a deck of cards to select the winner. The interesting news is that there is currently a three-way tie for the free membership prize with only ONE meeting left! The winner will be decided at the December Holiday Party. So, let all of your friends know how much fun Civic Club is and what great work we do in our community. Bring a Friend and Win a Prize!

FUND RAISING AUTUMN GLORY 2014

ANTIQUE SHOW 2014



Another successful show has come and gone and we did well again this year. All the dealers remarked what a good show and they had a good year.

At the last minute we had to replace two dealers because of illness and a death in the family. Those who have been here before don't like to miss this show because they consider it a vacation as well as a vocation of antiques. I was able to fill those vacancies so it did not look empty with other dealers already in the show.

People liked the idea of tickets for admission for the three days rather than the stamp. Most do not like that. The current vendors also spoke to the topic of raising the admission fee to \$5.00 and they feel it would be a mistake.

Other shows have done that without success and have been forced to shut down. Their suggestion is to raise their entrance fee to \$200.00 and let them absorb the additional expense. I agree with them but the Executive Board will have to make that decision.



Picture: Jackie and Wayne Johnson

I hope there are some members who are willing to step forward and take charge of the 2015 show since I will be stepping down due to health issues. Not that I really want to, but 20 some years is a long time and I have certainly enjoyed my run and wish them, whoever they may be, the best of luck.

I want to thank Lindy for her work in doing the breakfast GOODIES for the vendors. They all spoke highly and they very much appreciated it. A little kindness goes a long way and by treating our vendors well, I think this is why we have no trouble filling our spots.

Thank you for allowing me to help Civic Club and the Oakland area these many years. I have had much pleasure and enjoyment doing it.

Jackie Johnson, Antique Show Chair

Donated Items Sold at Antique Show

My daughter, Diane Bedwell, rents a vendor space from us at our annual Autumn Glory Antique Show and Sale. Diane sells the Cookie Lee line of jewelry as well as antiques and collectibles. Diane suggested to me that, in order to help raise money for our Civic Club, she would be happy to sell antique and collectible (or just plain old "vintage") items in behalf of members. She would sell it for you without charging a sales commission, provided you made a donation to the club of 25% of the sale price. You would receive cash for an item you no longer need and the club would receive a cash benefit.

I'm happy to say that at this year's Antique Show and Sale we have had some success with this effort. A lovely, old, painted oil lamp was sold for \$55 for one member. For this the Club will receive a donation of \$13.75. A former member was "downsizing" and gave Diane several boxes of items to sell. Only four pieces from this collection sold last month, but they brought a total of \$122.50 – and, again, the club received 25%, or \$30.62. The owner, of course, received \$91.88. Diane was asked to hold over many of the unsold items until next year's Antique Show and to try again to sell them on the same terms, which she will do.

Recently, President Sandy Hill found some rather vintage plastic and canvas "moneybags" (empty, of course) from several old banks and from the United States Mint. The seven bags brought a total of \$29, all of which went directly to the club. Now, these numbers may not seem like much but this is an idea that is just beginning. It is one additional way to raise money for our Club and its projects.

Anne Horowitz

50 / 50 RAFFLE PRIZE



From left: Sandy Hill presenting check to winner Samantha Hodge-Williams and new companion standard poodle Diesel

Samantha Hodge-Williams uses a companion dog to help her manage her daily routines. Samantha's dog, Aslan, is getting on in years and she desperately needed to begin training with a new dog, but the expense is enormous. As a local resident, Samantha had a number of chances to buy raffle tickets from several Civic Club members. You just never know, she thought, it could be my lucky day!

At the end of the Antique Show the winning ticket was drawn and Samantha had won!! On Tuesday, Nov. 11, Marilyn Ruymann, Edna Forsyth, and Sandy Hill met with Samantha and her mother to present the 50/50 raffle prize winnings in the amount of more than \$1500. They also got to meet Diesel, Samantha's new companion dog! Diesel had just flown in from Colorado and was getting to know Samantha and her routine. The fact that Samantha is a local resident, had an important need to fill, and won Civic Club's first ever cash raffle prize created a great result for this year's raffle.

A big thank you goes to Edna Forsyth and Kris Yusko who head up the Fun(d)-raising committee. More thanks to all the other members of the committee and to those Civic Club members who sold raffle tickets. This raffle has been an amazing success all the way around!

Sandy Hill, President

Fund Raising Autumn Glory 2014

KITCHEN

First I would like to thank all of the Civic Club members, friends, spouses, and family members who worked so hard in the kitchen. I am sure you are aware that the planning stages take almost as much work, as the actual three day event. We held a planning meeting, purchased the needed supplies, spent one whole day in St Paul's Church kitchen preparing 14 gallons of beef vegetable soup, 15 pounds of Sloppy Joe's, 13 pounds of pulled pork, 2+ gallons of chicken and rice soup.

We also spent one day setting-up the kitchen and dining area. It takes an army of volunteers to run the Autumn Glory kitchen. So thanks to all of you it was another successful year.



At last all of Civic Club's kitchen supplies are all inventoried and stored until next year when we haul them all out and start all over again.

From left: Peggy Knieriem, Flo Royer, and Sue Maynard

Although we were disappointed that our total income was down by about \$380, this loss was offset by the generous donations received from Club members to purchase food and supplies.

Outside of the fundraising aspect I believe that the real benefit of working in the Autumn Glory kitchen is the wonderful camaraderie and the friendships that develop between the new Civic Club members and the older members.

Thanks once again to all who worked in Civic Club's Autumn Glory kitchen.

Betty Ellington and Flo Royer

BAKE SALE

The bake sale part of the kitchen at the Antique Show and Sale went very well again this year. Many thanks to everyone who baked! We had a lovely mix of all kinds of wonderful sweets and the public had many good comments. The Club really benefits from all of your baking talents. And more thanks to the workers who cut and priced all the baked goods on Friday morning.



From left: front: Kathy Brady & Suzanne Harle

This has become an efficient (and fun) way of getting every thing ready, making it easier for the workers out front to keep a good variety of desserts on display. Again, many thanks to our Civic Club volunteers!

Lindy Donahue

Other Fund Raising in 2014

SUPPORT CARD

Make sure you have purchased a support card. This nationally accepted card will give you many discounts, in fact it pays for itself shortly after being used. This cost is \$20 and is valid until August 31st, 2015. Call Kris or Edna for a support card and enjoy your discounts while Holiday shopping and at the same time you can have the nice feeling of supporting your Club.



I-GIVE

In addition to the Autumn Glory raffle tickets and our Support Card above, the "Fun(d)-raising" Committee has been busy with another way for Civic Club of Oakland to raise much needed funds for all our non-profit organizations. FREE MONEY! FREE MONEY, you say? That's right ladies. FREE MONEY for Civic Club of Oakland and all you have to do...is shop online. It's so simple even I can do it and I'm usually technically challenged. It's a website called I-GIVE. When you shop at any of the 1500 stores online Civic Club of Oakland gets a small percentage donated from that store.

Simply go to www.igive.com and sign up with your name, e-mail, a password and zip code. Then continue on to choose Civic Club of Oakland as your cause. Download the I-Give button app. And you're ready to go. Spend some time on their website and read about how it works. With all the holidays around the corner why not give the gift of cash to our Club as you do your online shopping. If you have any trouble or questions just call me at 301-387-5987 and I will be happy to help you.

Kris Yusko

MORE CLUB ACTIVITES

CRAFT CLUB

We started this year's projects so far in advance of our regular schedule that by August, we were working on Halloween! To good to be true! You betcha! Our regular Craft Room ended up not being available to us for September and October. Thanks to members Anne Forrester, Judi Schiff, and I (Jeannie Bailey), we moved all our project material from house to house to complete the projects and we actually got them done on time!



We found this little guy in our Craft Room when we did an inventory! Someone bought the kit, put it together, and left it for us to use! This one has mostly foam pieces **BUT**



we adapted our project with supplies we had on hand: white felt, styrofoam heads, cardboard for the tombstones, and orange paper printed with "Trick or Treat" from the computer!



Thanksgiving is ready for delivery!

Craft club continue >

MORE CLUB ACTIVITIES

We're working on our Christmas project now (in the Craft Room) and it's turning out great! A Tin Soldier ornament made with a small wood apple for his head painted flesh color. He has a painted nose, mouth, eyes, and pink cheeks. He's wearing a tall soldier hat (empty 35mm film container) with a front cap (military style) secured with red ribbon to his chin with a small bell attached. He looks really classy!

I want to say a special thank you to Jo Gallagher who has donated a number of things to the Craft Club. She keeps us supplied with items she's "found" at local auctions and thrift stores! Thanks Jo! We really appreciate your support!

We have our Valentine's Day project all lined up and ready to start as soon as we finish Christmas. Ann Horowitz's donation of heavy yellow paper has been a tremendous help in getting this project started!

Every newsletter comes with a plea for help! Without your assistance, the Craft Club struggles to meet our commitment of 275 items that go to five different organizations! Please check your club yearbook for when we meet.

We hope you plan to attend the next Civic Club meeting on Tuesday, November, 24th where the Craft Club will be presenting "Make It and Take It!" We hope it will serve to remind you to join us each month!

Jeannie Bailey & Judi Schiff

BOOK CLUB



Please check your yearbook for when and where we meet! The book titles are suggested by all members and voted on for final selections. The goal is not to be literary critics, but to enjoy reading as a leisure art and discuss the merits or demerits of the books. Content ranges from classic to contemporary, fiction and nonfiction. Our goal is to have lively, sometimes challenging, but always interesting group discussions. We rate the books from 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest rating awarded. We meet once a month each year.

We do not meet in November and December. We begin again in January, when we discuss the titles chosen for November and December. They are this year: "The Cuckoo's Calling" and "The Astronaut Wives Club", respectively.

Book Club is a wonderful way for new members to get to know Civic Club members in a smaller group who are all fellow book lovers!

SHERRY BRADSHAW 301-746-8117 or email sherbrad@verizon.net

WARM THE CHILDREN

We hardly get finish with the Antique show when it is time to start warming Garrett County children. Basically Warm the Children (WTC) program is sponsored by the Republican Newspaper and the Civic Club. WTC provides new winter clothing for needy Garrett County children. The Republican does all of the advertising and fund raising, and the Civic Club provides the volunteers to administer the program. Garrett County Social Services provides the needy family names to WTC Co-Chair.



Three people manage the program. A Co-chair has responsibility for the following: coordinating with Wall Mart, assigning Civic Club member shoppers, tracking funds, and verifying the Wall Mart bill for payment. A person counts the money received, makes the bank deposits, notifies Co-Chair of amount. Then provides names and addresses to the "Thank You Note" Co-Chair, who is responsible for assigning Civic Club members to write thank you notes to all who donated to WTC. As part of the program every person who makes a WTC donation regardless of amount receives a hand written note.

Last year we shopped for 369 children and spent over \$39,000 on warm clothing for Garrett Ct. children. 22 members wrote 313 thank you notes. So far this year we have 17 thank you note writers and 20 shoppers. If you would like to be a thank you note writer call or email **Ellen Fritz**. If you would like to shop contact **Betty Ellington**.

HOLIDAY GIFTS FOR ONRC RESIDENTS

Civic Club of Oakland is once again providing gifts to residents at Oakland Nursing and Rehab Center. Twenty names will be provided for members to choose a name to purchase gifts for those residents who have no one to shop for them. I hope to have names soon and will email the list out to you. I would like the gift to be brought to the December Holiday Party on Tuesday, December 9th. Our gifts mean so much to the residents. Thank you in advance for your support!

Peggy Nelson

HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

DATE: December 9, 2014
TIME: 11:30 Appetizers & Cash Bar
LUNCH: 12:30 Seated Lunch
PLACE: Dutch's at Silver Tree
 567 Glendale Road, Swanton
MENU: Choice of Fried Haddock,
 Beef Tips or Dutch's Chicken
PRICE: \$18.00 per person includes
 gratuity.
*This event is open to all Club mem-
 bers, and their guests (spouses/
 partners and other guests)*

*Advance reservations and payment
 is required by Dec. 1, 2014.
 Check payable to Dutch's*

*Bring payment to November 25th
 Luncheon (registration forms will
 be available) or mail to JEAN
 TUMBARELLO 54 Wilson Circle,
 Swanton, MD 21561*

*If you mail payment please indicate
 number attending and choice of
 entrée.
 Please call Jean with any
 questions—410-707-5377*

2014-2015 Yearbook Chgs/Corrections since Aug, 26, 2014

Bobbie Henderson - Phone Number 410-398-4776

New Members not in yearbook:

Darlene C. Beachley, 205 South Woods Drive, Swanton, MD 21561,

301.616.6362 darlenebeachley@earthlink.net

Patricia L. Preston, 247 Skippers Point Rd. Oakland, MD 21550,

301.387.5621 prestonpat@msn.com Winter Address: 400 Clocktower
 Ridge Dr. #238, Winchester, VA 22603, 540.450.8438

**March 2015 luncheon meeting date says 3/24/15 which is incorrect,
 it should be 3/31/15 the last Tuesday in March.**

EDITOR'S NOTE: Thanks to all the individuals who contributed articles and photos for this publication.
 Suzanne Harle, Newsletter Editor

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