



GFWC Civic Club Of Oakland Newsletter

Fall/Winter 2015

The Presidents' Corner

As this Club year winds to a close, the word that comes to mind is "grateful." We all have so many people and things in our life for which to be grateful that it is almost overwhelming. I count our Civic Club at the top of my list.

I am grateful for the love and dedication of each of our members. This has been shown time and again by participation in the July picnic; the Book Club; the Antique, Vintage, and Collectible Show; the Craft Group; and Warm the Children.

We shop, sell tickets, bake, read and share ideas, make tray favors for nursing home residents, write thank you notes, balance budgets, raise money for our charities and scholarships, and decorate trees. Then we cook; buy gifts for those less fortunate than we; collect pop-tops, printer cartridges, and box tops; and give away the money we raise. After all that we gather up small gifts for the Treasure Chest; personal items for the Dove Center; candles for a cancer walk; toilet tissue tubes for a Craft Group project; and medicine bottles for Malawi.

And the writing! We write articles for the newspaper, reports of all of our activities, agendas, minutes, directories, *Quick Guides*, calendars, introductions, and thank you notes. We write emails galore! We try to keep each member informed of up-coming activities; the sadness or celebrations of other members; handy hints from our Conservation Committee; and the

actions of the Executive Committee (the "Board"). We also email the minutes of each General Membership meeting so even if you couldn't attend you are still in the loop. We write lists, and lists, and lists!

As I approach the end of my second term as the president of this amazing group, I think about all we have accomplished these past 4 years; and truly, all the Civic Club has accomplished these last 104 years.

We represent a long line of confident, capable, ingenious, thrifty, hard working women who have gone before us. There is a long line coming after us as well.

Let us do all we can to love and support each other as we continue the good work that began in 1911. I am grateful for each of you and all you do. You are **"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.

JEAN TUMBARELLO 2015 WOMAN OF THE YEAR



Our recipient today exemplifies what an impact a new member can make in our organization.

Congratulations to our Civic Club "Woman of the Year," Jean Tumbarello. She is a shining example of young Leadership. GFWC Civic Club has a number of outstanding new members who have become active volunteers very quickly. Jean joined GFWC Civic Club of Oakland in 2012. Jean shows us how you can be an active Civic Club Executive Board member and be employed as a part-time Administrative Assistant at Garrett College plus work for the Garrett County Chamber of Commerce.

She also enjoys gardening and sewing as well as helping in the Civic Club Café at the Antique Show. Perhaps you saw her at the Farmer's Market, selling raffle tickets while representing the image of the Civic Club.

Jean currently serves as Co-Chair of the Craft Group. As needed, she willingly opens her home to the Craft members to finish special projects, most recently for our "felted" Christmas tree which will be donated to Festival of Trees for the benefit of Dove Center.

Her daughter Lisa, recalls her Mom being a "Craft Lady" as she beautifully sewed her ballet dancer special outfits and of course, those very unique Halloween costumes for both of her children.

She is ably serving as Second Vice President in the Administration of President Sandy Hill.

In that capacity, Jean is responsible for arranging the monthly meeting locations as well as special meetings such as the July picnic and December Holiday luncheon. She established and activates the monthly calling committee for the purpose of receiving meal reservations and informing each member of the upcoming activities of the next meeting. Her work is notably accurate.

In addition to her Civic Club involvement, Jean is there to help others via formal efforts as a member of Garrett College President's Circle of Donors and informal efforts by way of a number of other helping activities.

She was born in Floral Park, New York. Jean knew from an early age that she wanted to be a nurse and spent over 35 years as a highly regarded, caring clinical nurse in the Howard County Hospital system. Finishing her career as Director of Nursing, she retired to Garrett County in 2012.

Jean is married to Michael Tumbarello, her husband of 37 years. They have two children, Lisa who lives in Columbia, MD and Michael II of Colorado Springs, CO. In addition, there are two "furry children," Lucy and Cashflow, cats that Jean and Mike have adopted.

She is known as a humble, kind, gentle person that is always willing to go out of her way to help someone, whether through advice, funds, knowledge or just listening.

The Woman of the Year committee is Edna Forsyth, Barbara Frantz and Judi Schiff. We are pleased to add Jean Tumbarello to the list of outstanding Civic Club Woman of the Year members.

GFWC Civic Club of Oakland, Inc. established the Woman of the year designation in 1992.



SPECIAL EVENT

Festival of Trees "Felt Ornament Decoration Party"

Every year the Civic Club donates a decorated tree to the Festival of Trees where the tree is judged and sold at a live auction. The proceeds benefit "The Dove Center," a Garrett County facility for abused persons.

This is the second year the Craft Club has hosted an ornament decoration party. It appears to be coming an annual fun event. The theme for this year's tree is 'It just "felt" like Christmas.'

Craft Club Chairs at our October meeting asked members to take home a bag of felt



After a bit of talking, eating and drinking, with our glue guns heated we started decorating the ornaments for the table top tree that had been already set up with lights and a big felt star on the top waiting to be decorated.



ornaments to stuff and hand stitch together and bring back the finished product to the party.

Strips of felt were precut to be used for the felt garland which would be assembled at the party.

After 2 hours of interesting conversation, dessert breaks, and much laughter, the group succeeded in decorating felt balls, bells, trees, birds, animals, and all the other types of felt ornaments with sequins, beads, buttons, lace, glitter, snowflakes, and much more from a large array of decorative choices.

Many thanks to all who attended! From left seated above Jill Wakefield, Jean Tumbarello, Sandy Smith Curey, Carol Mowbray-Brooks, Betty Ellington, Ann Horowitz, Sandy Hill, Marilyn Ruymann, from left standing Jenny Schwartz, Michelle Umlauf, Suzanne Harle, Jeannie Bailey, (tree), Susan McQuaid, Pat Mullinix, Ellen Quinn Hamlin, Pat Weiler, Edna Forsyth, Judi Schiff.

On November 12 in the evening, the felt decorating party with wine and food was held at the home of Jean Tumbarello. Thank you Jean for opening up your home!

CHECK THIS OUT!

If you are in the county on Friday, November, 27th & Saturday, November 28th come to the Festival of Trees. Saturday join the live auction at 6:00pm (food provided by Dutch's for those bidding) in 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 is provided at no cost. All proceeds go to "The Dove Center" a very worthy cause!

SPECIAL EVENTS

At our October evening meeting in honor of Domestic Violence Awareness month many of our members wore purple as seen in the picture below.



Front row: Jill Wakefield, Sandy Hill, and Anne Horowitz.
Back row: Dorothy Cathell, Jenny Schwartz, Helen Earles, Elizabeth Huxford, Peggy Kneriem, Kathy Gera, Michelle Umlauf, Peggy Nelson, Edna Forsyth, Barbara Frantz, and Jeannie Bailey

The club also featured Lori Davis, RN, a forensic nurse examiner at Garrett Regional Medical Center as our guest speaker. Ms. Davis described the process of evidence collection from a victim of assault or abuse emphasizing the need for care and compassion for the person involved. The members of the Civic Club also donated personal care products to the Dove Center which were delivered to the Dove Center by Jean Tumbarello.

Purple Purses Challenge (Fund Raiser) Allstate Insurance Foundation

A national challenge fund raiser took place in October. The Dove Center in Garrett County was selected to participate in this event. Unfortunately the center "did not" win any of the big money challenge amounts, did however raise \$5,720 and won a small challenge of \$1250 for a total of \$6,970. Yeah! A great big thanks to those who donated!

25th ANNIVERSARY

Hazel Sherwood
congratulations



Sandy Hill, President left, Hazel Sherwood recipient right

At our September meeting Hazel Sherwood received her 25 year Anniversary pin for her years of dedicated service as an active club member of GFWC Civic Club of Oakland, Inc. She enjoys sewing, cross stitch, needlepoint, Knitting, quilting and reading. From 1961 to 1976 she worked in the Ruth Enlow Library.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The "Bring a Friend" contest is still working. A big thank you to all those who have been and are still bringing guests to our meetings.

Please welcome our new members below, some of these new members immediately showed their volunteer spirit by joining in the recent "Felt Ornament Party" and served at AG Café.



From left **Ellen Quinn Hamlin**, and **Jill Wakefield** given their new member packet from Jo Gallagher, Membership Chair



Louise Schaefer

No Picture Available

Carol Mowbray Brooks

No Picture Available

Patricia Birch

No Picture Available

Jessica Josephson

"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 2015 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 2016 dues for free! In case of a tie, we have decided to draw from a deck of cards to select the winner. **The winner will be decided at the December Holiday Party.** Thanks to everyone who brought a friend this year and good luck!!

FUND RAISING AUTUMN GLORY 2015

ANTIQUE, VINTAGE & COLLECTIBLES SHOW 2015

The 42nd Annual Civic Club Show reflected a new name as well as a new team for the Club's largest fundraising event held each October during the Garrett County Autumn Glory Festival. Since 1973, the Oakland Civic Club has been responsible for attracting Antique Dealers to the Oakland Community Center from Maryland and surrounding states - Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Ohio.

This year, 31 Dealers contracted with the Civic Club for a typical space of 12x12 feet. Eight new dealers joined us this year. As the years have gone by, long time vendors have had health issues and "doing" the show has become more difficult for them. High end merchandise is becoming more difficult to sell as interest in antiques has waned somewhat although vintage items continue to be of interest. One new vendor brought 49 unique vintage glass bird feeders with her and sold down to 15 items. Vendors' items include furniture, vintage clothing, vintage glass, collectibles, coins, jewelry, tools, baskets and glassware.



In addition, it is important to all parties for us to attract the public to visit the Center, formerly known as the Armory. One measure of success is the Door admission, only \$3.00, for Friday 10-6; Saturday 10-5; and Sunday 10-4 entry. We proudly displayed signs showing our visitors the

names of the 20 non-profit organizations that benefited from last year's net proceeds of the Antique, Vintage & Collectible Show.

Another measure of success is the infamous Civic Club Café, with homemade soups, sandwiches, soft drinks, plus a Bake Sale with pies, cookies, brownies and more. Jeannie Bailey stepped in this year to organize, cut and package all of the donated baked goods. Thank Judi Merriman and Suzanne Harle for their ingenuity in the food presentation and outstanding sales in the Café.



This year's Advertising budget was increased to include the Chamber of Commerce Publication, The Republican Newspaper, The County Register, and the Herald-Standard in Uniontown, PA. 4,000 flyers were distributed to

vendors, and Antique Malls in Hancock and Westminster.

Lastly, a \$1000 cash prize raffle was also a total success. Edna Forsyth and Kris Yusko led an enthusiastic team of Civic Club volunteers in this endeavor.

We especially thank Marilyn Ruymann, our Treasurer who ably kept us financially on track. Most importantly, we thank all the Civic Club member volunteers who participated in this event over the 3 day weekend. Please mark your calendars for next year's event, October 14 – 16, 2016.

Barbara Frantz, Antique, Vintage & Collectibles Show Chair

\$1000 CASH PRIZE DRAWING "She's a Winner"



Ticket sales for the Civic Club's Cash Prize Drawing went on sale in June of this year. Sales for a guaranteed prize of \$1,000.00 were brisk all summer long. Edna Forsyth, Kris Yusko and their team of Civic Club volunteers sold tickets at the Farmer's Market, Arrowhead, Shop and Save, and various other venues. Then on the

Sunday of Autumn Glory weekend the winning ticket was drawn! Pictured above is the recipient, Diana Ashby, who won \$1,000.00! Diana lives in Oakland and has bought raffle tickets for years. This year she bought just 3 tickets including the winning one.

Congratulations to Diana! Congratulations also to the Fund Raising Committee that raised over \$2000.00 for Civic Club's scholarships and donations.

Sandy Hill, President

Donated Items Sold at Antique Show

Anne Horowitz's daughter Diane Bedwell has been kind enough for several years now to sell items for club members at the show from her booth. Diane sells the Cookie Lee line of jewelry as well as antiques and collectibles. Diane does not charge a commission for the sale provided the donor will give a 25% donation from the item sale to the Club. This year we had several members with items to sell and the Club had some items donated to the Flea Market at the College to be sold. **Total cash to Club this year from the sale was \$171.50.** A big thank you to Diane Bedwell for selling our items and to Anne Horowitz for collecting the items and managing them throughout the sale.

Fund Raising Autumn Glory 2015



The [Civic Club Café](#) had its most successful year ever, bringing in a total of **\$3,073.65** over the three days of Autumn Glory. We made some changes in food, pricing, and operations which we believe contributed to our success. We tried out a new soup this year to rave reviews, chicken soup with dumplings, which in some circles are called matzo balls. Whatever you want to call it, the soup sold out by 3 pm on Friday. We made 5 gallons of soup and 110 matzo balls...more next year. We had a "cooking party" at St. Paul's the week before Autumn Glory and beside the chicken soup, we made 16 gallons of our traditional beef vegetable soup, 16 pounds of pulled pork barbeque, and 20 pounds of sloppy joe's.

The pork was gone by Saturday afternoon but just the right amount of beef vegetable soup and sloppy joe's, which doubled as chili for the hot dogs. On Saturday and Sunday we served clam chowder, generously donated by Uno's, and had just enough left on Sunday for a lucky few to take home quarts. We eliminated pickles with our homemade sandwiches (too messy) and instead served a more generous helping of potato chips, and included chips with hotdogs. We eliminated chopped onions as a topping on hot dogs, which no one seemed to miss. We raised prices slightly from the previous years, making sure that all food items were either priced in full dollar or half dollar amounts. This made the cashier's job easier, and moved the checkout line more quickly.

We instituted several efficiencies in the kitchen's operation. We took all condiments out of the prep area and instead placed packets of catsup, mustard, mayonnaise, and relish on a separate table in the dining area so customers could dress their sandwiches and hot dogs. A "HUGH" thank you goes to Tiffney Blackden, owner of The Alley, who donated these condiments from her restaurant. We also used the table for sugar, artificial sweetener, and *real* half and half for hot beverages. This moved customers away faster from the serving area and reduced time spent preparing the orders. We handed out menus to customers in line so choices were made ahead of time. We used order pads to take orders which were collected by the cashiers. We found it expedient to have one person take orders and a second to call it into the kitchen. With all of these changes during our busiest hours on Friday, we had no long lines. These changes worked really well!

Suzanne Harle donated the egg salad and Judi Merriman donated the chicken soup, it still cost over **\$800** for all the food and supplies to run the Café for three days. Sadly we only collected **\$359** from members for expenses. If you were unable to help in any other way, a donation toward the expenses would be very helpful. Remember, the money we make goes back to the community thru the non-profit's we donate to in March.

We are so grateful to everyone who helped this year, whether you cooked or served. Thank you Jean Tumbarello, Anne Horowitz, Flo Royer, Susan Maynard, Sandy Hill, Betty Ellington, Sandy Smith, Sue McQuaid, Peggy Nelson, Judy Gillespie, Marilyn Ruymann, Barb McCloskey, Pat Mullinix, Ginny Grove, Jessica Josephson, BJ Gallagher, Donna Brenneman and her hospice workers, Jeannie and Ken Bailey, Bill Merriman, Pamela Lentz, Pat and Paul Weiler, Artie Horowitz, David George, Lisa Reitmeyer, Wileta Mateer, Pat Preston, Jenny Schwartz, Jane Schwartz, Barbara Frantz, Judi Schiff, Anne Forrester, Kathy Gera, Rita Watson, Bobbi and Tony McCarthy, Cherie Krug, Louise Schaeffer, and Dale Knieriemi.

Thank you all, we could not have done this without you!
Judi Merriman and Suzanne Harle



Jeannie Bailey was in charge of the [Bake Goods sale](#) this year. She can always use some help so if baking is your thing talk to Jeannie for next year. Sign-up sheets for baking items are available at meetings prior to Autumn Glory week. Bakers are asked to bring their cookies, brownies, cakes, pies, candy, muffins, quick sweetbreads, etc. on Friday morning before show begins for helpers to cut, bag, and label all of the tasty treats for sale. Some pies need to be purchased like pumpkin pies they can't be made at home says the Health Department. With the exception of the bought pies all the bake goods sales are sheer profit and the customers love this sale. On the last sale day at Noon we mark anything left as half price. So don't fret if you did not get a chance to make your special bake good this year mark the date for next year! Volunteers are always needed for Friday morning preparation of items for sale. The sale went very well this year and with your help will do so next year. Any left over baked goods were donated to The Dove Center, and The Lighthouse. Thank you to everyone who baked and worked on Friday with sale preparations.

Other Fund Raising in 2015

SUPPORT CARD

Edna Forsyth and Kris Yusko as well as others have been very busy selling this years new support cards since August. There are still a few left if you would like to purchase a support card for \$20.00 for yourself or a family member, friend or neighbor, they make excellent Holiday gifts. Please contact Edna or Kris to get yours today!!!

I-GIVE

If you are an on line shopper or someone in your family is please use I-GIVE. When you shop at any of the 1500 stores online Civic Club of Oakland gets a small percentage donated from that store. What a great way to help the club get FREE money! 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. For questions contact Kris Yusko or Suzanne Harle.

MORE CLUB ACTIVITES

THE TREASURE CHEST- What is it?



The Treasure Chest is an onsite gift shop for the clients attending the **Garrett County Lighthouse**, the major provider of mental health services in the area. The Treasure Chest is rich in history, for over two decades, the Civic Club has been involved in Lighthouse activities. Currently Betty Ellington and Melissa Rank are Co-Presidents. Other members conduct classes. In 2002

"The Treasure Chest" gift shop was started by two members Martha Jachowski (who has passed) and Bobby Andersen. The shop has been continuously operated by Civic Club volunteers. The fuel that has kept the project running smoothly is the support of In-kind donations from club members and the community at large. The donors have not only served the clients well, but also made it possible to expand the gift shop's role within the Lighthouse. For instance, a coupon program was initiated as an incentive for clients to achieve personal goals. The case managers award the coupons and the clients exchange them for merchandise. This past year sufficient income allowed the establishment of a Treasure Chest Fund for the benefit of client related activities and special needs. Funds were used for an accessory to new electronic interactive equipment, a security deposit for a client, and medication expenses for another. **Please keep those donations coming!** All jewelry, DVDs, household gadgets or items, mugs, seasonal items, tools,...are welcome! Donations can be brought to a meeting or dropped off at Lighthouse. Come by, check it out! **Contact Melissa Rank or Loretta Bailie for more information!**

MORE CLUB ACTIVITES

CRAFT CLUB

It's been another busy year for your Craft Club! All our projects were completed early thanks to our new schedule. "Take note" we now meet every Tuesday from 9:30 until 11:30 a.m. rather than every other Tuesday. We'll be taking a breather during the month of December and not return to crafting until the Tuesday after the New Year – January 12, 2016!

We have removed two holidays Valentine and Halloween from our agenda. Thanksgiving had us doing flocks and flocks of turkeys! Aren't they cute? We've also completed our



Christmas project and made quite a few extra so a few special people would be surprised with an ornament for their Christmas tree!



Our Festival of Trees (Dove Center) tree donation "It Just Felt Like Christmas" was completed by Club members. See page 3 in this newsletter for the event story and pictures. Once again, Jo Gallagher who has donated a number of things to the Craft Club, supported this project with a generous donation of felt! We have her to thank for the red felt we used to make the tree skirt! Thanks Jo! We'd like to thank everyone who has contributed their time, monies, and support to us this past year! Remember, you don't have to be creative just willing to share ideas, learn, and do. Come join us this next year – you won't regret it!

Jeannie Bailey

BOOK CLUB

Ten books were read this year, only one got our overall top rating of 5 - **"ALL THE LIGHT YOU CAN NOT SEE,"** by **Anthony Doerr**. If you want a good read this winter try this one! Several others were high on the rating list:

- "The Devil in the White City - Erik Larson
- "Nineteen Minutes" - Jodi Picoult
- "The Pearl that Broke its Shell - Nadia Hashimi
- "Two Old Women" - Velma Wallis

We're a friendly, informal group that all love reading for the same reasons. We read books we might never have known about or thought to read. We are NOT a literary critic's club. Our favorite books are those that teach us something new and that provoke stimulating discussions. We meet on the 3rd Friday of the month at Dutch's at Silver Tree up stairs. For more information contact **SHERRY BRADSHAW 301-746-8117** or email sherbrad@verizon.net



HOLIDAY GIFTS FOR ONRC RESIDENTS

If you choose a resident to purchase gifts from Peggy Nelson please don't forget to either bring the items in a decorative bag. Put some tissue paper over your unwrapped gifts and attach the small slip of paper you received onto the outside of the bag. You need to bring them to ONRC (Oakland Nursing/Rehab Center) by Dec. 1st. Thank you for your generous donations the residents are so happy and appreciative of these gifts. If you have any questions, please contact **Peggy Nelson**.



WARM THE CHILDREN

Warm the Children (WTC) is a national program involving about 50 small town newspapers. Here in Garrett County, *The Republican* newspaper and the Civic Club of Oakland run the local program. The local program began in the fall of 1996, when Mack Steward, a retired newspaper publisher contacted *The Republican* newsroom and explained the WTC program, and asked if *The Republican* would come on board. After hearing the specifics and already operating successfully in a number of small towns the Assistant Editor agreed to do it. For the first couple of years WTC was solely run by *The Republican* newspaper staff, However, from the very beginning of the Garrett Co. WTC program members of the Oakland Civic Club have been heavily involved in the program.

In 2003 the Civic Club and *The Republican* newspaper became partners in managing the Garrett Co. WTC program. Donations are made through an AD placed in the newspaper, a Civic Club member (Betty Ellington), manages all the shoppers, manages the money, handles any WTC questions. The Civic Club Treasurer (Marilyn Ruymann) deposits all WTC donations, a Civic Club member (Sue McQuaid) receives a list of names of donors, and she assigns a thank you note writer to each donor. Last year we shopped for 359 children, and members wrote 316 thank you notes. If you want to be a shopper contact **Betty Ellington**. If you want to be a note writer contact **Susan McQuaid**. There is still time to volunteer!

HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

DATE: December 8, 2015
TIME: 11:30 Appetizers & Cash Bar
LUNCH: 12:30 Seated Lunch
PLACE: Ace's Run at Will O' Wisp
Handicap access in the rear of the building
MENU: Choice of Chicken Stuffed w/ apples and almonds, Beef Tips with vegetables served w/rice in mushroom merlot sauce, and Eggplant Rollatini, also a Dessert Bar
PRICE: \$20.00 per person includes gratuity.
This event is open to all Club members, and their guests
Advance reservations and payment is required by Dec. 1, 2015.
Check payable to Ace's Run
Bring payment to November 24th 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

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

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