

Founded 1911 Federated – 1912 Incorporated – March 13, 1973 An affiliate of the General Federation of Women's Clubs & GFWC Maryland Federation of Women's Clubs

Executive Board 2018-2020 President

Carol Feser

First Vice President

Patricia Louison

Second Vice President

Jennie Russell

Recording Secretary

Debbie Winkles

Corresponding Secretary

Bonnie Andrews

Treasurer

Mary Snyder

Assistant Treasurer

Joan McNamara

Contact: Mary Snyder msnyder55@comcast.net

Club News & Notes

February 2020

From the Desk of the President: Carol Feser

When you read this, Mardi Gras will be at our doorstep, and we expect to make great memories. This is the largest fundraiser for our club, and I'm asking every member to support and participate in this fun event.

We still have three Kings and have modernized Mardi Gras from Princesses to Young Women Volunteers. If you did not serve on the Mardi Gras committee this year or assist with any of the activities, look ahead to next year. This is an opportunity to get to know your fellow members better.

Spring is just around the corner, and you will read about interesting events coming up for March and April. The Youth Art Competition for Frederick County Schools and the reception at Frederick Community College was graciously done by Debbie Winkle and her team. Our Community Service Programs is humming along so productively. They have offered us so many opportunities to participate in service. Mary Snyder has an active group working to Celebrate the Suffrage Movement and passage of the 19th Amendment.

Please take time to read this newsletter, pull out your calendar, and mark the dates for the activities you want to participate in. There are lots of opportunities, something for everyone. Look at your Membership Directory for the dates of the Annual State Convention, Easter, and take note the April Tea is late this year, April 27th. Save the date for our Joint Dinner Meeting at Gladchucks, May 18.

Carol



February Birthdays

- 5 Bonnie Andrews Geisbert
- 6 Debbie Winkles
- 7 Nancy Wolfe
- 11 Clara Dinterman
- 13 Lisa Wolf
- 20 Lois Noffsinger-Spurrier

May Dinner Meeting Change

Please note the change in the May Joint Dinner Meeting to May 18 at Gladchuks.

First Vice President – Pat Louison

At the January day and evening meetings, the Community Service Program Chairs' provided updates and reminders of upcoming volunteer events. Those updates are included in this newsletter under each community service program and project. In addition, civic club members are also encouraged to provide a brief community program/project update that they are involved in with other clubs in Frederick that would be of interest to the day and evening meeting attendees. The 2019 Year-End Reports have been submitted on a timely and accurate basis. Thanks to all members who submitted their reports to ensure they were reviewed and mailed before the January 31st deadline.

Second Vice President – Jennie Russell

February 17 - General Meeting - No program but we will be hearing all about Mardi Gras, which will be two days after the meeting.

March 16 - General Meeting - We are hoping to have a speaker to tell us about The Claire McCardell Project (TBD)

April 27 - Anniversary Tea - Our program will feature the 19th Amendment and the Women's Suffrage Movement.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS

<u> Art – Debbie Winkles</u>

The Youth Art Competition reception was held on January 4. The keynote speaker was local artist, Donna DiSciullo. Thank you to Sam Reeves for suggesting Donna. Donna gave a lovely talk to all in attendees. The winning artwork is on display on the FWCCinc.org website.

The Frederick Festival of the Arts Director, Jasmine Sneed, is requesting anyone interested in volunteering for the Frederick Festival of the Art. Organizational meetings are going on now. The Frederick Festival of the Arts is the first weekend in June.

Education – Richelle Emerick/Nancy Foltyn

Thanks to all who donated mittens, hats and scarves for students at Lincoln Elementary. Nancy Folytn has made two deliveries to Lincoln. I know they are very appreciative of our generosity. We continue to assist with Lincoln's Book Rack each Tuesday morning before school. Always can use more volunteers!

We are working with Frederick STEM teachers and Catoctin Furnace to have educational materials for students when they visit CT this spring. This is a very exciting new project for the ECS.

<u> Conservation – Mikki Stratmeyer/Nancy Keller-</u> <u>Bonde</u>

Keeping Our Water Clean

Winter has finally arrived. Many of us brave our Mid-Atlantic weather by staying indoors. However, those occasions arise where we must venture out after a snow or ice storm to clean off our driveways and sidewalks. For many years we purchased salt which not only contaminated our waterways but destroy our driveways, sidewalks and roads. They also hurt the paws of our furry friends. Instead of using conventional deicing salt and GMO sugar this winter, head down to your local hardware store and pick up some "pet-safe" and environmentally friendly deicer made from calcium magnesium acetate (CMA), potassium chloride (KCI), or calcium chloride (CaCl2). The idea is to use as little as possible to melt the snow and ice, therefore, releasing smaller quantities of chemicals into our streams, rivers and the Chesapeake Bay. An important tip: once the driveway or walk is dry please go out with a dustpan and broom to sweep up any residual deicer. (Who likes seeing ice/snow melt chemical tracks across their floors?) You can reuse it. Mix it back into the original packing it came in. And remember, it doesn't go in the trash. Check with our local health department for ways of disposing ice/snow melt. Let's be safe out there.

Home Life - Jan Nefflin/Judy Virts

We will be collecting men's socks for clients at the Cold Weather Shelter. As you may have seen on tv, this is the number one requested item for homeless shelters at winter time. Please bring new, unused socks to the February day meeting. They will be delivered to the shelter after the meeting.

STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Book Club - Sandy Long

Book Club will meet on Wednesday, February 26, 2020, at Bob Evans. Our book selection is <u>Eleanor</u> <u>Oliphant Is Completely Fine</u> by Gail Honeymon.

Evening Meeting - Elaine Junker/Karen Butler

In January, the Evening Group enjoyed an inspiring presentation by Shari Scher, founder of Children of Incarcerated Parents. In February, we will work on our project to develop programs for middle school visitors to Steiner House.

Luncheon Committee - Bonnie Andrews

I want to thank everyone who chaired and served on the luncheon committee. The lunches and brunch were all delicious.

Another big thank you to all who attended the October joint meeting. While mentioning the joint meeting, our May joint meeting will be held at **Gladchuks** due to the increased price at Dutch's Daughter. Please mark your calendars. **It will be Monday, May 18th at 6:00 p.m.** The menu will be the same Salmon, Chicken or Beef. Price is the same \$30 per person. You may select one entree. Please make sure to be there. It is the election of officers.

Looking forward to working with the group for luncheons the rest of the year.

<u>Mardi Gras Update – Pat Louison, Chair</u> 2020 Mardi Gras – Frederick

The Mardi Gras committee and extended members have been working diligently to make the 2020 Mardi Gras event a success. But we need everyone's support to purchase tickets and attend the event that benefits many of the causes we support in our community. If you, your family and friends have not purchased a ticket, please contact Richelle Emerick at <u>emerick@wans.net</u>. Our common goal is for a successful 2020 Mardi Gras.

- The young woman volunteer community service project day was held on Sunday, January 26 that included two projects: inspirational messages on colorful notecards for Blessings in a Backpack, and Happy Valentine's Day chocolate candy treats for the residents at Montevue Assisted Living for the upcoming February bingo game winners.
- The guest speaker was Tonya Hatosy-Stier, Executive Director, Woman to Woman Mentoring and our 2020 Woman of Inspiration, who gave an inspirational and motivational speech to the young woman volunteers and their moms. The ceremony for the random selection of the FWCC, Inc./Mardi Gras \$1,000 scholarship was held and the winner was Isabella Gusman, a senior at Middletown High School.
- Mardi Gras Ceremony: Speakers are as follows: Carol Feser will welcome and thank guests for attending the event, thank sponsorships, and recognize past kings of Mardi Gras. Pat will introduce our Emcee (Dina Carole); and, our Woman of Inspiration, Young Woman Volunteers (high school and non-profits). Kings of Mardi Gras will be on the stage for our Emcee, Dina, to introduce, recognize and honor their community work, volunteerism and service to Frederick.
- Sponsorships: There has been a tremendous work effort for support of the event by club members and Megan Kula for sponsorships. The results will be finalized for an update later in February.
- Silent Auction: High-end silent auction donations have been received and there will be approximately 25 gift baskets on display for bidding.
- Food Tasting Sponsors: Renaissance Chef, CarterQue Barbeque & Grill, Glory Days, Up On Market, the Clarion, and Clustered Spires.
- Program: Work is in progress to complete the program to ensure sufficient time for review and printing by Sir Speedy.
- Emcee: We have secured Dina Carole, Morning and Afternoon Radio Host from 106.9FM, Frederick.
- Honorary Committee: Hermine Bernstein, Blessings in a Backpack; Mary Lynn Hinde, SHIP; Inga James, Heartly House; Rick

Weldon, Frederick Chamber of Commerce; and Jean Wright, Woman's Business Network.

- The Mardi Gras Website, Eventbrite and Facebook have been updated with additional information.
- Music: Mike Boyd, Jazz Connection and Unique Dreams. For playlist suggestions, send to Mikki Stratmeyer at: michelestratmeyer@comcast.net.
- Publicity: The Mardi Gras ad is/will be in the following publications:
 - SASS Winter Edition (Ad For the Combined Months of December, January and February)
 - The Frederick Magazine (Ad January and February Edition; February Calendar of Events)
 - The Urbana Neighbors Magazine (January and February Calendar of Events)
 - The Frederick News-Post (Barter Agreement: Ad to Sell Tickets to Event; Calendar of Events, 72-Hours)
 - The Frederick Chamber of Commerce Website (Ad, Marketing Materials)
 - Heartly House (Ad, Marketing Materials)
 - SHIP (Ad, Marketing Materials)
- Girl Scouts: There will be four girl scouts for the coat room and to assist in the silent auction area.
- 50/50 Raffle: There will be a 50/50 raffle throughout the evening.

<u>Celebrate the 19th Amendment – Women's Right</u> to Vote – Mary Snyder

On August 26, 1920, the 19th Amendment to the Constitution was ratified. Maryland did not ratify the amendment until 1941. The suffrage movement actually began in 1884, and it took 72 years for women to win the right to vote.

A memorial to the suffragist is being built in the Occoquan Regional Park, Fairfax County, Virginia, a part of the historic prison grounds where the infamous Occoquan Workhouse was located. The memorial is called The Turning Point Suffragist Memorial.

Club members myself, Carol Feser, Pat Louison, Nancy Wynne, Rosemary Glenn, Leah Johnson, Jennie Russell, Sally Baer, and Melinda Shanholtz are working on ways for the club to celebrate the 19th Amendment. We are working with the League of Women Voters, Girl Scouts, DAR, Children's Library, and Weinberg Center with some planned activities. More information to come.

Dates to Remember

February 3 – Board Meeting February 15 – Mardi Gras Frederick – Clarion Inn February 17 – General Meeting – Steiner House February 18 – MFWC State Board Meeting – Annapolis February 20 – Evening Meeting

Thought for the Month

A woman is like a tea bag. You never know how strong she is until she gets into hot water. Eleanor Roosevelt

