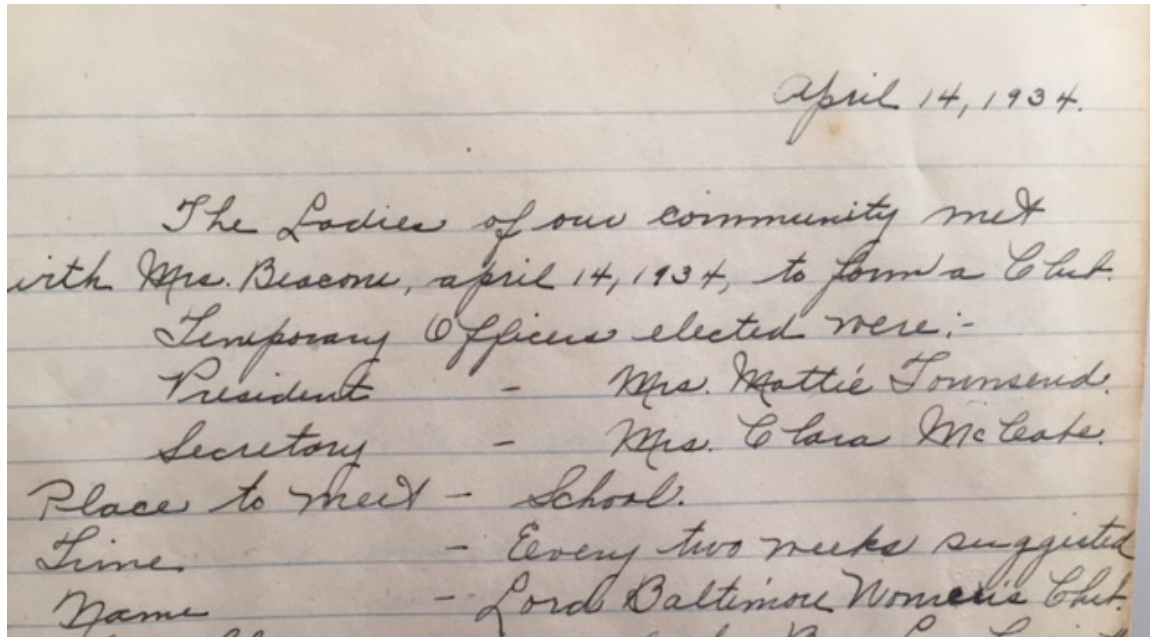


HISTORY OF LORD BALTIMORE WOMEN'S CLUB  
Assembled in September 2020



Lord Baltimore Women's Club was founded as part of the General Federation of Women's Clubs on April 14, 1934. At that time the State of Delaware, instead of being divided into the current three counties (New Castle, Kent, and Sussex), followed the historical division into 100-acre plots. Each 100 acres was given a name. Reportedly (and supported by the minutes) the women who started the club all lived in the Lord Baltimore One Hundred (generally Bethany Beach, Ocean View, and Millville); hence the name Lord Baltimore Women's Club. At the third meeting, the pink rose was selected as the club flower, and pink and silver were picked as the club colors. At the fourth meeting the club motto was selected as "Let us be large in thought, in word, in deed" which came from a Collect (a short statement of the inspirational intent of a person or group) of the Federation of Women's Clubs. The Collect was read at every meeting for many years (it's not clear when it stopped being read but it was sometime before 2004). The Collect has continued to be relevant throughout the years:

*"Keep us, O God, from pettiness, let us be large in thought, in word, in deed. Let us be done with fault-finding and leave off self-seeking. May we put away all pretense and meet each other face to face – without self-pity and without prejudice. May we never be hasty in judgment, and always be generous. Let us take time for all things; make us to grow calm, serene, and gentle. Teach us to put into action our better impulses, straightforward and unafraid. Grant that we may realize it is the little things that create differences; that in the big things of life we are at one. And may we strive to touch and to know the great, common woman's heart of us all, and, oh, Lord God, let us not forget to be kind."*

Author Mary Stewart

In line with that motto, the club has always been a non-profit organization dedicated to helping the community on a personal level – through works and donations. Women interested in raising funds and working with projects at local schools, mentoring, and doing community charity work of all kinds, have been “angels,” giving unstintingly of their time and talents in the community and, in later years, to military members and their families.

Charter members of the club were: Mrs. Viola Betts, Mrs. Lula Kempston (shown here at an LBWC meeting in 1988), Mrs. Lester Kauffman, Mrs. Mac Phillips, Mrs. I. Robert Willey, Mrs. Mame Evans, Mrs. Mattie Townsend, Mrs. Clara McCabe, Mrs. Mattie Dukes, Mrs. Hazel Munser, Mrs. Lula Quillin, Mrs. Jeanette West, Mrs. Gloria Evans, Mrs. Marion Noble, Mrs. Maude Mitchell, Mrs. Mabel Boyer, Mrs. Ralph Betts, Mrs. Cecile Steele, Mrs. Naomi Townsend, Mrs. Mary Short, Mrs. Harriet Pyle, Miss Joan Steele. These 22 ladies are mentioned in the first and second club meeting minutes but it is not clear from the minutes whether there were more members but seems unlikely.

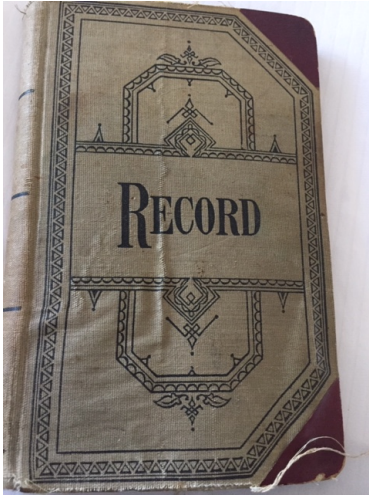


When the club was first formed, they met twice a month (until WW II) at Lord Baltimore School (called “the school”) and Mariner’s Bethel Methodist Church. For over fifty years meetings were held in member’s homes with bigger events held at Lord Baltimore School, Mariner’s Bethel UMC, and the Millville Fire Hall. Then, in 1990, the club adjourned to a succession of local restaurants (Ryan’s Café in Bethany Beach, Gartside’s Restaurant in Roxanna, The Cottage Café in Bethany Beach, Steakhouse 26 in Millville, and Cripple Creek Golf and Country Club in Dagsboro). For many years into the mid-2000s, the September meeting was an International Pot Luck Luncheon held at the South Coastal Library. At the regular meetings, members had lunch, active business meetings and interesting speakers and/or programs on a wide variety of topics.

Sometime between 2002 and 2004, the club left the General Federation of Women’s Clubs following discussions about the amount the club was paying in dues versus what benefits they were getting from the Federation. Since that time LBWC has been a stand-alone club. The club grew steadily throughout the years from the (estimated) 22 members who began the club in 1934 to 34 members in 1940, 53 members in 2007, 76 members in 2010, 80 members in 2011, to 125 members during the years from 2012 through 2020.

In 2009 the club was incorporated as a State of Delaware Non-Profit (not a 501c3 – due to the cost of maintaining that status). The club does have an Employer Identification Number (EIN) and an official corporate stamp maintained by the president of the club in the bank where the club maintains its accounts and a Safe Deposit Box.

**What follows are excerpts that were compiled from a large number of documents and scrapbooks that contained the activities of LBWC over the years. The original two books of minutes (the first book of minutes shown in the photo here) documenting the establishment and early history of the club are in the club's Safe Deposit Box.**



**1934** – LBWC was founded on April 14, 1934. According to the first club By-Laws, dues were \$1.25 a year and the quorum necessary to vote was only nine people! The club met every two weeks at “the school”(Lord Baltimore School, which was K-12 then) and once a month a member would report on current events. Members usually brought their own lunch to the meetings and/or as reported on January 1, 1935, members each paid the refreshment committee \$.45 for “delicious refreshments.”

At the first meeting on April 14, the first president, Mrs. Townsend, “...expressed her desire to have the club Federated.” The minutes make it clear that the General Federation of Women’s Clubs was active in sponsoring the club and that LBWC was a member of the Federation (dues were paid, etc.).

At the second meeting on May 12, 1934, the ladies opened the meeting by singing “America the Beautiful” which continues to be sung at every meeting in 2020. At the third meeting, on June 5, 1934 the club colors, pink and silver and the club flower – the pink rose – were chosen. They discussed a club motto but did not make a decision. They read the Collect at each of the first meetings (and for years thereafter). At the fourth meeting on June 19, 1934, the ladies unanimously voted to make the motto of the club a line from the Collect, “Be large in thought, in word, in deed.”

**1936** - The Welfare Chairman reported that 213 bottles of milk were given to poor children at a cost of \$6.39. In May of 1936, the President’s Luncheon was held at a cost of \$.50 each.

**1939** – It appears that the club participated in an “imaginary” Federated Women’s Club “Good Neighbor Tour of Latin America” held at Lord Baltimore School on November 7, 1939 aboard the “imaginary” “S.S. Friendship” for “a six-month’s Good Will Cruise to South America.” Each attendee was supposed to visit the countries (not actually visit but study to learn about them) for which she had passage (all the South and Central American countries are listed on the “ticket” with an “open and sympathetic mind” and that she would “contribute her share to the development of closer relations and better understanding between the United States and the other American Republics.” They also held a “Men’s Night” at Lord Baltimore High School on November 21, 1939 for “fun and frolic on shipboard.” Members were invited to bring “your husband or friend. “

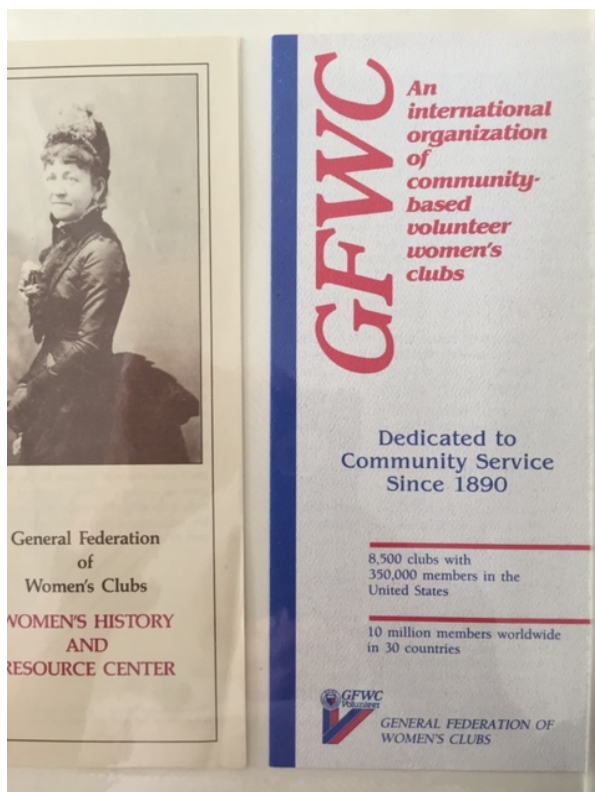
**1940** – LBWC had 34 members and club dues were \$1.25 a year and they met on the first and third Tuesdays of the month.

**1942** – On page 231 of the book containing minutes of the club meetings from April 14, 1934 to February 19, 1946 (in the Safe Deposit Box), the January 13, 1942 minutes

contain the motion "There shall be only one meeting a month for the duration of the war, the fourth Tuesday evening." The ladies passed the

motion and on May 21, 1946 the club voted to amend their constitution to hold meetings the third Tuesday of every month but June, July, August and September. At the end of World War II, the club continued to meet once a month and never returned to meeting twice a month.

**1946** - In April of 1946, the club held an Early American exhibit of coverlets, quilts, glass and china. They served a "banquet" of mulled cider, wild turkey, mashed potatoes, "sparrowgrass" (a British term for asparagus), Plymouth Rock salad, cranberries, pickles, gingerbread with whipped cream and coffee – all for the huge cost of \$1.50 per person.



**1947** –At the meeting on November 19, 1946, Mrs. Kempston presented the deed for the lot given to the club by Dr. and Mrs. James Betts, "located along the side of Jackson's house on highway to Bethany Beach." (while there is no exact information in club records about where the property was, legal property records indicate that the lot was located in what is now Ocean View (it was then in the Baltimore Hundred in Bethany Beach) in an area called "West View" north of Route 26 between Woodland Street and then Route 14.) The deed was to be held in Mrs. Kempston's Safe Deposit Box. At the meeting on March 18, 1947 there is a notation that "the deed for the



lot was recorded and that no taxes were due (later it was determined that, because LBWC now owned it, the lot was tax exempt.) So LBWC owned a lot. In 1982, the lot was sold and the funds put in savings and many years later (2009) turned into a CD in a local bank that continues to be reinvested until at least 2020.

1949 – LBWC held the club's 15th birthday (anniversary) luncheon on May 14, 1949.

LUNCHEON ----- May 14, 1949.

The Last meeting was held at the Lord Baltimore School in the form of a luncheon to celebrate our 15th Birthday.

Time -- 1:30 P.M.

The History of the Club was given by the present Club President, Lula E. Kempston.

All Past Presidents were invited guests.

Mrs. Mattie Townsend, our Mother President unable to be present, but sent a message in letter, which was read.

Mrs. Marian Noble, our First Director and 2nd Pres. - gave a fine report of her club years.

Mrs. Mary Calhoun - 3rd Pres. unable to be present, but sent a message in letter.

Mrs. Maude Mitchell - 4th President - gave a fine talk on her club years.

Mrs. Raymond Betts - 5th President - gave an interesting talk on her Club years.

Mrs. Ralph Betts - 6th President - Was unable to be present.

Mrs. George Butler - 7th President - gave a fine talk also.

President Lula E. Kempston gave a report of the Federation Convention in Milford, attended by Mrs. Mabel Beeman and the President

A moment of silent prayer was held for one our Club Members, Mrs. Elizabeth Wharton, that some way may be provided for them. It was moved and seconded to give her a gift of \$10.00, and all other Club Members give as they so desired - \$34.00 was given, and more to come in later.

The lighting and cutting of the Birthday cake, was done by our first Director, Mrs. John Noble. The cake was beautifully decorated in our club colors - pink and silver - and made by two of our club members, Mrs. Zada Wilgus and Mrs. Elizabeth Greaf.

The history of the club was given and all seven past presidents were invited (see photo of minutes). The birthday cake, decorated in pink and silver, was made by two of the members. It is clear from these minutes that from the beginning of the club the position of "Director", now described in the By-Laws to be filled by the immediate past president, dates back to the beginning of the club

The meeting was then turned over to the program chairman, Mrs. Marian Noble, opening with the singing of "Our Delaware"

Miss Ruth Evans gave two fine and beautiful selections on the piano.

Mrs. Eleanor Weaver sang two numbers beautifully.

Little Nancy Dukes tap danced for us and it was enjoyed by all, accompanied at the piano by Miss Dorothy Holt.

Mrs. Fred Graef also sang two numbers for us beautifully.

The program closed with the singing of "Perfect Day."

Next meeting - Oct. 18, 1949.

1950 – 1954 – No information was available in the club's historical documents for this period.

1955 – LBWC had a Fashion Show on March 17, 1955. In the October 19, 1954 minutes, the statement is made "March 17, 1955 has been chosen as a tentative date for our Fashion Show. It was suggested that some of the member's husbands model at this event. We all have our doubts about receiving any volunteers but we haven't given up yet!" The Fashion Show held that year made a profit of \$232.62 and there is no indication of whether the husband's "volunteered" to model but it is clear they did model in some years after 1955.

1956 – Lord Baltimore Women's Club, together with other community organizations, established the Southeastern Sussex Teen Canteen (had dances in the Millville Fire Hall). Over the years following its establishment, other groups lost interest, leaving LBWC as the sole sponsor of the canteen. Over the years it was operated there were difficulties with volunteer staffing. In 1967 the Chief of Police in the area called a

meeting of various organization in hope of arousing interest and support for a revived community youth program. They raised money and set up a summer program at the church campgrounds in Bethany Beach. Dances and basketball, volleyball and other forms of recreation were held. Pressures from the property owners objecting to the noise of the summer program forced the Police Chief to resign his job. The Capitol Area Christian Church (owner of the property) applied for a grant from the State Parks Commission to promote community recreation but it was denied, since the church was not incorporated in Delaware. Lord Baltimore Women's Club was asked if they could help. The club voted 100% to help and tried to formally have the town of Bethany Beach sponsor the program. The town would not support a youth recreation program so the State Parks Commission set a precedent by granting the funds in the name of the women's club. LBWC enlisted the aid of the town boards of Millville and Ocean View to



sponsor the program by setting up a recreation commission for the area. A 10-person commission was set up by the two towns and a year-round recreation program was

started in November 1969 with funding of \$9,381 received from the State Parks Commission. It was their hope to eventually obtain and support a year round community building for the area. It is not clear how long the recreation commission lasted.

## L.B. Fashion Show To Be March 5

Members of the Lord Baltimore Women's Club of Ocean View have completed plans for their annual Fashion Show to be presented on March 5, at 8 p. m. in the Lord Baltimore School. Clothes for the show will be furnished by Smith's Ladies Shop and Roland F. Scott, Inc., of Selbyville, and will feature the latest in sports wear, suits, casuals, dress, cocktail and formal fashions.

Club members and their friends serving as models will be: Mrs. John Brasure, Mrs. Frank Phillips, club president; Mrs. Raymond Hickman, Mrs. Lorah Hickman, Mrs. Stanley Taylor, Mrs. Donald Lynch—Selbyville; Mrs. William Townsend, Miss Judy Willey, Miss Faye Wingate, Mrs. Harold Light-hipe, Mrs. Floyd Turner, Mrs. David Steele, Mrs. Clarence Dudley, Dr. Ruth Rivard, Mrs. Arthur Kempston, Mrs. Paul Timmons, Selbyville and Mrs. John S. Tingle, Omar.

Misses' and children's wear will be shown by Jean Pusey, Ginger Collins, June Jackson, Ruth Ann Vogel, Nancy Dukes, Grace Williams, Linda Graef, Karen Mead, Pat Wooten, Susan Wood, Sharon Breasure, Robin Murray, Nancy Hickman, Debbie Phillips, Debbie Swadley, Karen McCabe, Doris Ellen Hudson, Carol Powell, and Dawn Achilles.

The male models are Edward Murray, Edward Button, William Collins, Arthur Kempston, Ralph

**DELMARVA NEWS PAGE 3**  
Thursday, February 26, 1959

Helm, Herman Mumford, and Roger Hitchens.

Models for the boys and teen clothes are Robert Parsons, Walter Lathbury, Dirk Mumford, Robert Willey, Dale Steele, Roger Knox, Larry Mitchell, Tommy Stevenson, Michael Dudley, Douglas McCabe, Freddy West and Buzzy Quillen.

Fashion show arrangements are in charge of the ways and means committee, with Mrs. Allen Powell as chairman; Mrs. Elliott Evans, tickets; Mrs. Edward Simpson, programs; Mrs. Raymond Hickman, publicity; Mrs. Lee Kinley, dressing room; Mrs. William E. Evans, flowers; Mrs. William Powell, pictures; Mrs. Harry Mitchell, gifts and prizes; Mrs. I. Robert Willey, scenery; Mrs. Raymond Swadley, music; Mrs. Roland Mead and Mrs. Fred Graef, ushers; Mrs. Roger Vandegrift, hospitality.

Mrs. William R. Campbell will act as mistress of ceremonies for the show. Entertainment will be furnished by Dolores Hickman, of Ocean View, with a tap routine, and other acts.

Door prizes will be given and refreshments will be served. Tickets for the show are \$1.00 and may be obtained at the door or from any club members.

The Fashion Show was held either March 1, or 8, 1956 using fashions from Smith's Ladies Shop and Roland Scotts Men's Store, both in Selbyville. Members made sheet cakes for refreshments after the Fashion Show. All members of the club were required to buy tickets (a practice that continued until 2010), unless they had children modeling in the show, then they did not have to buy tickets. Tickets were \$1.00 each and children's tickets were \$.50 each. LBWC made a profit of \$187.61 from the Fashion Show.

**1959** – The annual Fashion Show was held at 8:00 pm on March 5 at the Lord Baltimore School. Tickets were sold by members and at the door for \$1.00 each. Door prizes were awarded and refreshments were served. Models were club members, their husbands and children with fashions supplied by Smith's Ladies Shop and Roland F. Scott, Inc. of Selbyville. Entertainment was furnished by club members including Dolores Hickman of Ocean View with a tap-dancing routine. The January 1959 Treasurer's Report is shown here.

The club's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary was celebrated at the April 25, 1959 meeting at Lord Baltimore School. Charter members of the club were invited and six attended (Mrs. Viola Betts, Mrs.

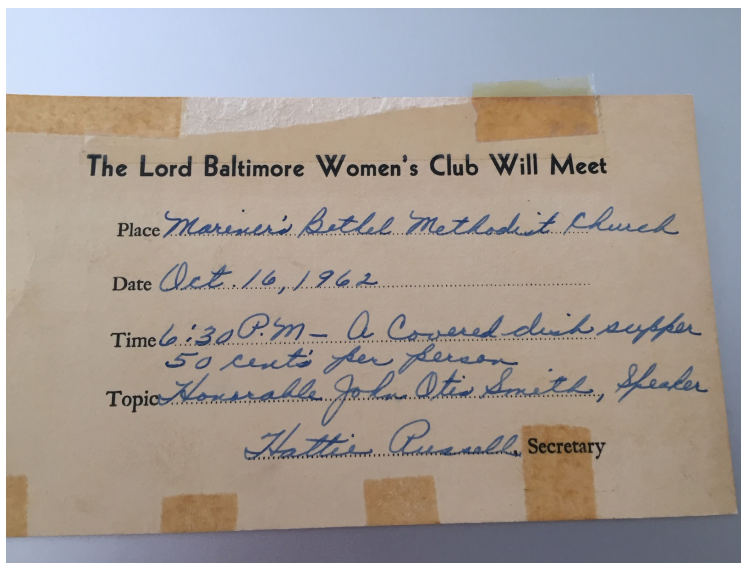
LORD BALTIMORE WOMEN'S CLUB	
Treasurer's Report January 20, 1959	
Dec. 16, 1958 - Cash on hand	\$323.02
<b>Receipts:</b>	
12/16/58 - Dues collected	\$12.50
12/16/58 - From PTA for purchase of plants left from Women's Club	
Card party 10/4/58	15.75
1/12/59 - Contribution from Marilyn Campbell toward card party	4.00
1/14/59 - Dues collected	22.50
	<u>54.75</u>
Total amt. receipts - \$	377.77
<b>Disbursements:</b>	
1/15/59 - To Mrs. Melvin Fall, Treas. GFWC, for dues as follows:	
32 members @ .35 for GFWC	11.20
32 " @ .35 for State	11.20
32 " @ .25 for For. Stu	8.00
32 " @ .03 - Penny Art	.96
Toward maintenance GFWC	1.00
Total disbursed -	<u>32.36</u>
<b>Recap:</b>	
1/20/59 - Cash on hand	\$377.77
" - Disbursements	<u>32.36</u>
1/20/59 - Bal. on hand -	\$ 345.41

Mattie Townsend, Mrs. Lula Kempston, Mrs. Lester Kauffman, Mrs. Mac Phillips, Mrs. Robert Willey, and Mrs. Gloria Evans). The Collect (by Mary Stewart that contains the club motto) was read as it had been at every meeting since 1934. The charter members gave a short play depicting the life of a small town clubwoman 25 years ago. Mrs. Mattie Townsend (the club's first president) presented the club with an engraved silver tray. The whereabouts of that tray are unknown in 2020.

Minutes from May 19, 1959 state that the club only received three new members that year; the Treasurer's Report showed a club balance of \$417.74 and that they had a deficit of \$34.44 from their luncheon. The speaker at the meeting was Georgia Vandergrift – the Civil Defense Chairman - who told them to “be prepared” and have their blood typed periodically. She said it was always advisable to have a supply of canned goods and showed a Home Preparedness Kit. This was during a time of concern about nuclear attack by Russia. Many Americans built home bomb shelters.

**1960** – A card party was held in July of 1960. Each member sold four tickets for one card table and provided eight sandwiches and a deck of cards for the ladies at that table. The party raised \$88.89 to sponsor a foreign exchange student.

**1962** – The first meeting of the year was held on October 16, 1962 at Mariner's Bethel Methodist Church and was a covered dish supper for which members brought a



dish to share and paid \$.50.

**1964** – LBWC members celebrated the club's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on Saturday, April 25, 1964 at the Federated Women's Club President's Luncheon held at Mariner's Bethel Methodist Church in Ocean View. Women's club presidents from all over the state attended. The guest speaker was Mrs. J. Fred Miles, President of the Federated Women's Clubs of Delaware.





**1965 – 1986** – No information on club activities was available in the club’s historical documents, except what was described earlier about the teen canteen and recreation commission and a chronological list of presidents. It is interesting to note from the chronical list of presidents that, from 1976 to 1978 there was not a club president. Rather, past presidents each presided for one month.

**1982** - Delaware Land Records show that, in 1982, the lot that had been given to the club in 1946 was sold by the club to Percy James and Bertha Wood for \$7500 and the funds placed in the bank as a “rainy day” fund for the club. That continues at least through 2020.

**1987** – The tradition of having a Fall Fashion Show was apparently revived with the first Fashion Show in several years held on Friday, November 18 at 7:30 pm at the Lord Baltimore Elementary School. Tickets sold for \$2.50 each. Fashions were provided by Treasure Island Fashions.

On March 14, 1987, the Little Miss Millsboro Pageant was sponsored by the Millsboro Women’s Civic Club and judges included LBWC President Jessie Fefel.

In 1987, LBWC donated a wall clock for the meeting room, a desk chair and a mirror for the ladies-room to the Town of Ocean View’s new Town Hall. The club also gave a check to the VFW at Quillen’s Point for their building fund.

In 1987, LBWC participated in the Bethany Beach 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade – decorating a truck in which four ladies rode. The club received Honorable Mention for their entry.

In October 1987, LBWC sponsored a bus trip to Gatlinburg and Nashville, Tennessee. They learned a great deal about the Civil War and about the Indians in that area being forced to walk from North Carolina to their new reservation. They took in one new member as a result of the trip and made a profit of \$500.



**1988** – The Fall Fashion Show continued (see photo of a model). This year it was held on Wednesday, October 12<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 to 2:30 pm at the VFW Mason-Dixon Post 7234 at Quillen’s Point. 76 tickets were sold for \$3.50 each.

In 1988, the Delaware Federated Women’s Clubs began supporting students attending the Hugh O’Brien Leadership Seminar (HOBY) from every high school in Delaware. That support by LBWC has continued at least through 2020.

On February 29, 1988, club president Jessie Fefel and several other members attended a Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Seminar (HOBY) dinner in Dover, DE and met Hugh O'Brian, who was the speaker (shown in photo of Jessie Fefel and Hugh O'Brian).



On October 27, 1988, LBWC donated and planted two holly trees at the new Ocean View/Millville Post Office and two crepe myrtle trees for the new Millville Beebe Medical Center.

**1989 – 1992** – No information was available in the historical club documents.

**1993** – The Fashion Show was held at Jordan's Roof Top in the Fenwick Inn in North Ocean City on October 14, 1993. Fashions were provided by Cullen's of Georgetown, DE.

**1994** – The installation of the 1994-1996 Board was held. In the photo shown here, the

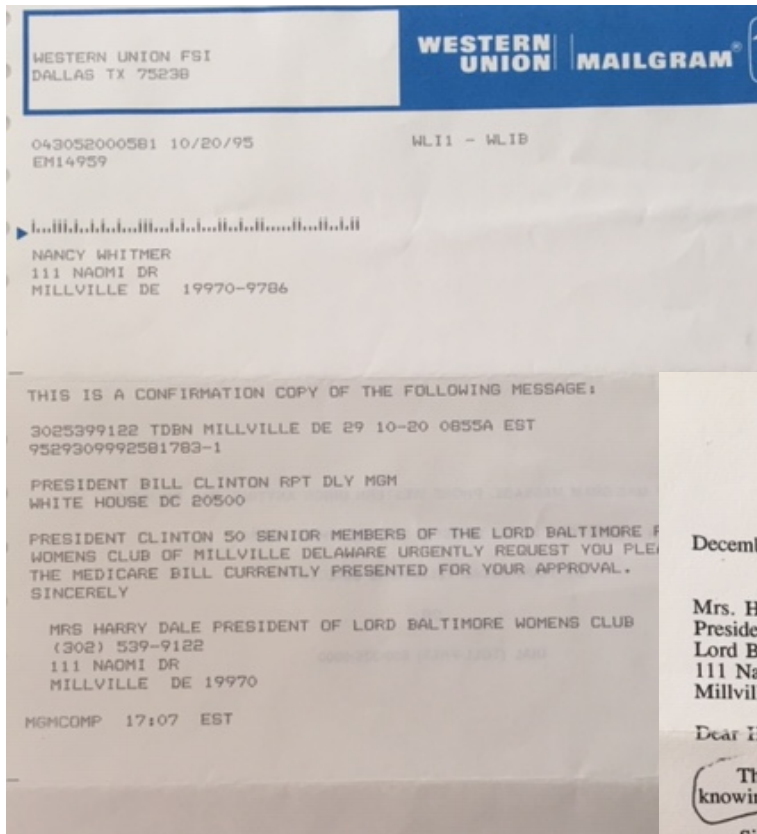


lady on the far right in the red jacket is Mrs. Lula Kempston who was the incoming treasurer. Mrs. Kempston was a charter member of the club who in 1994 had been a member for 60 years!

**1995** - On October 20 LBWC sent a telegram, signed by club president Mrs. Harry Dale, to President Bill Clinton urging him to veto the Medicare Bill. There is

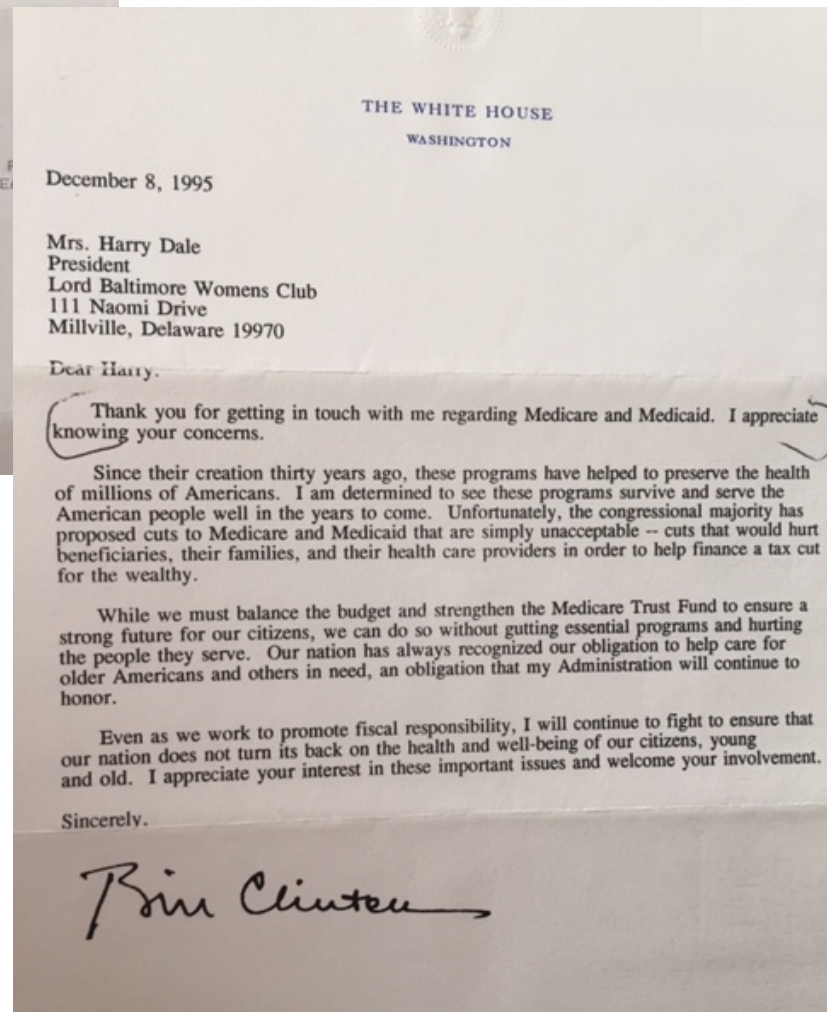
nothing in the club records to indicate why the ladies were opposed to the bill. President Clinton sent the club a letter on December 8, 1995 addressed to "Dear Harry," (oh well) thanking the club for their input. He did not veto the bill. (telegram and presidential letter shown below)

**1996** – The Fall Luncheon and Fashion Show was held October 2, 1996 at the VFW



Mason Dixon Post 7234 at Quillen's Point. Fashions were provided by Calico Tree, The Unique Clothier in Bethany Beach. Tickets sold for \$11 each.

**1997** – The Bethany-Fenwick Chamber of Commerce donated a booth at the Bethany Beach Arts & Crafts Festival on August 23, 1997 for LBWC to sell raffle tickets for a Vermont Toy Farmhouse dollhouse (shown in the photo with member, later president, Peggy Bird). Raffle tickets sold for \$1 each or \$2 for three tickets. The dollhouse was built using \$210 raised at the Memorial Day Bake Sale at Hocker's Supercenter. The drawing for the winner was held at the end of the Boardwalk Festival and the dollhouse was won by Stephanie Podolak of Wilmington, DE.





\$1000 was raised by the raffle. Proceeds benefited a scholarship for an Indian River High School student.

**1998** - LBWC awarded two scholarships to seniors from Indian River High School; one \$1000 and one \$500 scholarship. The club also sponsored one student to the Hugh O'Brian Leadership Seminar (HOBY). LBWC also began conducting the registration and providing snacks for the HOBY seminar, a commitment that continued for the next seven or eight years.

**1999** – LBWC celebrated their 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary by holding a tea sometime during the summer at Mariner's Bethel United Methodist Church.

In 1999 the club presented two college scholarships – one for \$500, and one for \$1000. LBWC also sponsored one delegate to the Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Seminar (HOBY).



**1999**

### Lord Baltimore Women's Club holds luncheon, gives awards to students

**Staff Report**

The Lord Baltimore Women's Club (LBWC) closed their 1998-1999 fiscal year with a luncheon meeting at Ryan's Cafe in Bethany Beach on June 21.

The recipients of the LBWC 1999 scholarship awards for Indian River High School were guests at lunch and presented their checks at that time.

Elizabeth Fleming, who received the \$500 scholarship, attended with her mother, Jennifer Fox, accompanied by her father, was presented with the \$1,000 scholarship. The LBWC wishes both girls well as they pursue their respective goals.

Chris Burris, Indian River High School delegate to the Hugh O'Brien Youth (HOBY) seminar, was also present with his father, the Rev. Joe Burris, pastor of Mariner's Bethel United Methodist Church. Chris's participation was sponsored by the LBWC for the seminar conducted in Rehoboth Beach this past spring.

**Scholarship winners are pictured with LBWC Scholarship Committee from left to right: Sally Kubicki, Joan Hunter, Elizabeth Fleming, Jessie Fefel, Jennifer Fox, and Shirley Aurand. Susan Louck of the Scholarship Committee is not pictured.**

Wave photo by Ayeda Royster

The LBWC will be celebrating their 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary this summer. A Reciprocity Tea will be held at Mariner's Bethel United Methodist Church to commemorate that milestone in the club's history.

**HOBY Representative Chris Burris from Indian River High School and his dad, the Rev. Joe Burris, with LBWC members Cecilia Leahy and Jeri Schofield.**

Wave photo by Ayeda Royster



In 1999 the club began the tradition of having a “Brown Bag Auction” at one of the luncheons each year. Everyone came to the meeting with a large brown grocery bag containing some kind of a gift or humorous object. The bags were auctioned off (without being opened and the contents unknown) by a member of the club making humorous conjectures about what might be in the bags. The money raised went to a charity chosen by the members. In 1999, the funds (\$60) raised were donated to Operation SMILE. The Brown Bag Auction was held every year until the club got too big for it to be feasible (2012). The funniest Brown Bag object remained the giant pair of red underwear (shown in the photo) contained in one of the bags the first year.



Pictured is Susan Louck with Red Underwear

**2000** – LBWC held the Fall Luncheon and Fashion Show on October 5, 2000 at the VFW Mason-Dixon Post 7234 at Quillen’s Point. Tickets were \$12 each.

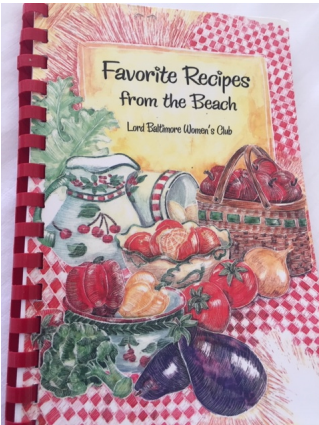
At some time prior to 2003, the club began meeting on the third Monday of the month, September through June.

**2004** – The “Brown Bag Auction” was held and raised \$155 for charity. Scholarships awarded in 2004 totaled \$3500, including a nursing grant. The club also started (year unknown) donating food each month to the Tabernacle Food Bank in Clarksville. Members bring the food to the meeting and a member then takes it in her car to the food bank. This has continued at least through 2020. During summer months when the club does not meet, a check is sent to the food bank.

**2007** – LBWC put out their first cookbook “Favorite Recipes from the Beach” containing members’ recipes. Copies (\$6 ea) were sold for over a year, including at the Bethany Beach Boardwalk Art Festivals in June 2007 and 2008. The cookbook was very popular and raised several hundred dollars for various projects.

Also in 2007, for the first time, the club “adopted” a home on the Friends of South Coastal Library (FOSCL) Beach and Bay Cottage Tour. The tour has been held for many years to raise money for the South Coastal Library and LBWC members have volunteered as hostesses at the various houses on the tour. This year was the first time the club had taken sole responsibility for staffing a house with hostesses for the two days of the tour.

**2008** – Luncheons were held at Steakhouse 26 in Millville for \$12 pp. The International Potluck luncheon was held in September at the South Coastal Library. The Fall Luncheon and Fashion Show was held October 16, 2008 at the Bay Center at Ruddertowne in Dewey Beach. Fashions were provided by Twila Farrell in Lewes. Tickets sold for \$20 pp and \$3000 was raised for scholarships.



For years the president had compiled and mailed out a bi-monthly (every other month) newsletter with club announcements, events, and information. In 2008, the president began emailing it to members with computers and only mailing to those without computers. The newsletter was also converted from being sent every other month to being emailed every month due to the growing size of the club and increased number of activities.

**2009** – The club marked the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of LBWC on April 25, 2009 at Steakhouse 26. A special luncheon was held and all living past presidents were invited and several attended. Monthly club newsletters featured segments of the club's history in each issue. On May 5, 2009 LBWC had a bus trip and tour of Hillwood Estate, Museum and Gardens in Washington, D.C.

In 2009, the club was incorporated as a Delaware Non-Profit. The corporate seal is kept in the Safe Deposit Box.

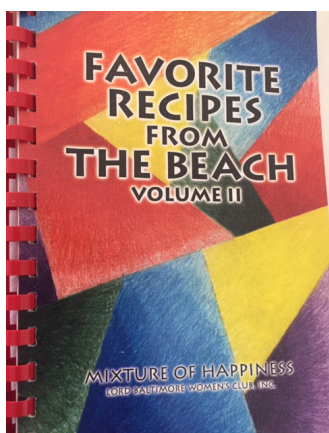
The Fall Luncheon and Fashion Show was held on October 14, 2009 at the Cheer Community Center in Georgetown, DE with catering by Georgia House. 218 tickets were sold at \$25 each and \$4227 was raised toward scholarships and educational/community support.

In 2009 LBWC began sponsoring Dine and Donate restaurant nights at a variety of local restaurants that would contribute a portion of the night's sales to LBWC. Fran Slahetka, one of the members, had the idea and was named the first "Restaurant Tzar" (or chair). It was a very successful program and continued with two or three nights a year at least through 2020.

**2010** – LBWC dues were \$20 a year. In 2010 members voted to establish a ceiling of 125 members as policy. This ceiling was established in order to maintain the size of the club to be able to continue meeting at Cripple Creek rather than having to find a larger venue (which is not readily available in the area).

The Fall Luncheon and Fashion Show "Fall into Fashion" was held on October 13, 2010 at the Banquet Hall at Roxanna Volunteer Fire Company with MAC's Catering providing the food and Peebles of Rehoboth providing the fashions. The 240 tickets were \$25 pp.

**2011** – Luncheons were held once a month at Cripple Creek for \$13 each. In 2011 LBWC put out “Favorite Recipes from the Beach Volume II” containing more members’ recipes.



An art contest was held in each of the schools that LBWC supports – Lord Baltimore Elementary School, John M. Clayton Elementary School, Phillip C. Showell Elementary School, and Indian River High School. Students submitted artwork to be used on the cover and various divider pages. Kelsey Murray, a fifth grader at Lord Baltimore Elementary, did not have her drawing selected but her title “Mixture of Happiness” was selected for the title of the cookbook. The prizes were a copy of the cookbook and a gift certificate for Michaels Craft Store (the idea being that winners might buy art supplies). Copies were sold for two years, including at the Bethany Beach Boardwalk Art Festival in June 2011 and 2012. The second cookbook was as popular as the first, but more and more it seemed that people got their recipes on line on their computers so it was decided that this would be the final cookbook. The 2011 cookbook raised several hundred dollars for various projects.

On October 12, 2011 the Fall Luncheon and Fashion Show was held for the first time at Baywood Greens Country Club. Tickets sold for \$30 each and \$5000 was raised for scholarships.

In October 2011 LBWC joined the Delaware Adopt-a-Highway Program and began cleaning up the stretch of Route One from Fred Hudson Rd to Route 26 by the Totem Pole three times a year. The State of Delaware posted a small sign on Route One announcing that LBWC sponsors the highway. Sue Culin and Nancy Cabrera-Santos were the first chairs. This continued at least through 2020.

On December 6, 2011 club members took a tour to Longwood Garden’s to see the Holiday Lights and displays.

In 2011 LBWC began using the Angel Jar (in which member donations are collected each month) to fund three charities/causes each year to be voted on by the members. This has continued through 2020 at least.

**2012** – LBWC sponsored a bus trip to Harrington Casino in Harrington, DE on March 7, 2012. 56 members enjoyed \$15 in free play and a free buffet lunch for \$15 per person. The March 2012 Brown Bag Auction raised \$748 which was evenly divided and sent to SMILETRAIN and Feed My Sheep charities.

The Fall Luncheon and Fashion Show “Fashion Around the Clock” was held October 10, 2012 at Baywood Greens Country Club. Tickets were \$30 per person.

The position of Nametag Greeter was established to encourage members to remember to wear their nametags. There was a \$.50 fine that went into the Angle Jar if a member forgot her nametag. This practice has continued through 2020 at least.

Club members attended “I Remember Mama” on June 10, 2012 at Possum Point Players in Georgetown, DE.

**2013** – The club held the first Spring Tea. The tea was held at Cripple Creek for about 125 attendees as a fundraiser for club charities. Small sandwiches, cakes, soup and tea (of course) were served and ladies wear fancy or themed hats and outfits. This has become a popular (sold out) event continuing through 2020 (in 2020 it was cancelled due to Coronavirus – see 2020).

**2014** – In March, club members took a bus trip to the Philadelphia Flower Show.

In 2014, the club instituted a Dine Around Raffle for the Fashion Show. Numerous restaurants throughout the area donated gift cards which were compiled into a “basket” or display that was raffled off at the Fashion Show. The value of the Dine Around raffle prize was \$1088 with 33 gift cards. It raised \$1015.

On October 8, 2014, “Mirror, Mirror On the Wall – What’s the Fashion For the Fall?” the Fall Luncheon and Fashion Show was held at Baywood Greens Country Club. Jones of New York from the Tanger Outlets in Rehoboth, provided the fashions. Over 230 tickets were sold and the event raised \$7,403 for the club scholarship fund – the most ever raised at an LBWC fashion show!

**2016** – The club opened both their first gmail account and their first Post Office Box. Ads in the Coastal Point weekly newspaper reaching out to prospective members were so successful that both gmail and PO Box were helpful. In 2016 President Barb Sunderlin established a trifold poster that is displayed at each meeting with current newspaper articles, thank you notes and any publicity of significance during the last month.



In 2016, the Fall Luncheon and Fashion Show at the Baywood Greens Country Club continued to be a great success, raising funds for both college scholarships and for the three elementary schools that LBWC has supported for years. About 240 ladies attended (photos show the Dine Around Raffle prize (worth about \$1300) and two smaller prizes with gift certificates worth about \$100 each with Dine Around Raffle Co-chair, JoAnne Longo; and a club member model, Gretchen Spraul). The



Dine Around Raffle in 2016 raised over \$2000. There was also the annual silent "Ticket Raffle" and the traditional 50/50 Raffle. The winner of the 50/50 took home over \$500 with the other \$500 going to the club.

On March 21, 2016, LBWC member, Suzanne Schwartz, established a Facebook group for LBWC members to exchange information and make connections with one another on line. All members of the group can post or comment. The group is a place for club business, as well as other items of interest, such as volunteer opportunities, and charity events. Only club members can join this Facebook group.



**2017** – The club began hosting Happy Hours at Cripple Creek twice a year – Spring to welcome new members, and Fall for all members. New members attend for free.

In 2017, corresponding secretary, Linda Mazzeo, initiated the Newsletter buddy system where members with email print out the newsletter and deliver it to members without computers.

**2018** – The amount budgeted for college scholarships awarded by the club was increased from \$6000 to \$10,000 a year. 14 new members were recruited. (photo shows club president Barb Sunderlin, Spring Tea chair Jan Louk, Treasurer Lynne Kyle, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Denise Goehner, and Fashion Show Co-chairs Ann Morris and Cheryl Quirk.)



In March 2018, the annual Spring Tea was held at Cripple Creek with a Mad Hatter theme (see newspaper article with photo)



The club increased the speaker's fee from \$50 to \$100 in 2018. Many speakers donate their honorarium back to the club.

**2019** – The club sponsored the planting of a tree as part of the newly established Delaware

Botanical Gardens at Pepper Creek in Dagsboro. 26 new members joined in 2019.

In 2019 the budget was increased to add \$500 for Cripple Creek kitchen staff. The \$500 is added to whatever funds are collected from the members to say an annual thank you for the great work of the kitchen staff. This was a new initiative following the addition several years ago of a collection and budget item to honor the servers and club manager for all their help to the club.

In March 2019, members of the club were hosted by 38<sup>th</sup> DE District Representative Ron Gray for a tour of Legislative Hall in Dover and lunch.

During Memorial Day weekend, the Spring Bake Sale, after being held for many years at Hocker's Supercenter, moved to the new Hocker's G & E at Salt Pond. The Bake sale made \$1000 and sold out all of the items baked and donated by members.

**2020** – The club purchased a commemorative brick to be placed at the Delaware Veteran's Home in Milford. Funds raised by the sale of the bricks are used to assist residents of the Home who are in need of financial assistance.

In January 2020, Return Day Chief Constable Jim Bowden, who is also president of the Georgetown Historical Society spoke at the LBWC luncheon on Delaware history, specifically the origins of Return Day in Georgetown - burying of the hatchet after Election Day and the roasting of an ox for free sandwiches, the hatchet toss and the parade of antique vehicles containing winning and losing candidates for political office. While the club was started by women whose families had written Delaware history, now the club is comprised largely of women who have moved to Delaware from other states

and are unfamiliar with Delaware history. But, like the original members, today's members are dedicated to serving our communities. So his talk was interesting and educational.

On March 8, 2020, Beebe Healthcare honored LBWC for International Women's Day.



president Anne  
past president



International Women's Day recognizes progressive women who are making a difference in their communities. The ceremony recognized the club for their contributions. Over 50 members attended the ceremony at the Atlantic Sands Hotel in Rehoboth (some are shown shown in this photo). The photo below, taken at Cripple Creek, was taken of many of the current officers( L TO R back row Jan Louk, Sue Culin, Denise Goehner, Liz Speicher, Sue Albert; front row Lynne Kyle, past Parler, president Barb Sunderlin, Mimi Drew).

In 2019 a Pandemic started in China called Corona Virus – COVID-19 - that in 2020 spread throughout the world. Thousands died and the entire United States and its Territories were affected as well as the rest of the world. Businesses and schools closed and people “social distanced” – staying at least six feet apart, wearing masks, and “sheltering in place” in their homes and only going out for groceries, doctors appointments, and emergencies in order to try and contain the spread of this highly infectious flu-like respiratory disease. This sheltering in place lasted for approximately six weeks (the time varied by state) and then things began gradually re-opening. There were limits placed state by state on what businesses could open and how many people they could accommodate. At the onset, there was nothing to treat the symptoms, no vaccine and no cure. People just had to be sick and recover, or die. LBWC cancelled its March, April, May and June meetings. The Spring Tea in March, the Bake Sale in June and the Fall Luncheon and Fashion Show were cancelled. The election of club officers, which was due to be held in April, was conducted for the first time ever by email and the installation was postponed until the September meeting. The current board kindly



stayed on and served several extra months. As it turned out, because many things were still closed, there was no September meeting. The installation of officers was held at out-going president, Barb Sunderlin's, home – an unintentional reminder of the club's beginnings when meetings were often held in member's homes. Because Cripple Creek was only partially re-opened in October, the 19 October meeting at Cripple Creek was postponed due to a Cripple Creek staff member testing positive for the virus. The 26 October meeting could only allow 36 members sitting four to a normally eight-person table. The meeting was limited to the old and new boards in order to help with the turnover. Plans for the rest of 2020/2021 are fluid as of this writing.

May 1, 2020

Coastal Point

45

## Women's Club forges ahead despite COVID-19

In its 86-year history, the Lord Baltimore Women's Club (LBWC) has never faced what it is experiencing during the current COVID-19 pandemic. As the global health emergency has forced the club to adjust its calendar and activities, it has moved forward during these days of stay-at-home measures and social distancing without losing sight of its commitment to community service. Despite the suspension of activities and events, the club is looking ahead to returning to an active schedule.

"Our membership is a dynamic group of women. They keep the club going," explained Barb Sunderlin, current president. "Even with the pandemic, they carry on."

With the closure of local schools, LBWC readers, mentors and assistants at school book sales are no longer present in classrooms. However, once the schools gear up again, LBWC will continue to work with teachers and administrators, she said.

"The education subcommittee meets with teachers to see what their needs are in the classroom. Often, it's the purchase of hardware or software that the school budget isn't able to cover. We'll get back to that and our support of classroom learning as soon as we're able," Sunderlin added.

Since the organization has not made its

monthly non-perishable or supermarket gift card donations to Helping Hands Food Bank in Frankford, a monetary donation was made recently. LBWC members who knit and crochet continue to make caps, scarves and blankets for babies and lap blankets for residents at the Veterans Nursing Care Center in Wilmington. Right now, they are working independently, rather than as a group at someone's home. The already well-oiled LBWC Sunshine outreach continues with get-well cards, supportive notes and sympathy cards.

"Although we're not meeting regularly, the committee that makes reminder calls about our luncheon meetings has stepped up," explained Sue Albert, membership chair. "They call to see how members are doing, if they need anything, to help lessen the feeling of isolation."

Quarterly dine-and-donate fundraisers are among the most reliable money-makers for the club. But those events have taken a big hit.

"We're all looking forward to when we can fully get back to our community work and COVID 19 is behind us," Sunderlin summed up.

Women who live in Sussex County who are interested in learning more about the Lord Baltimore Women's Club, would like to join or would like to keep abreast of upcoming events are being invited to send an email to [lordbaltimorewc@gmail.com](mailto:lordbaltimorewc@gmail.com).

### Dental Insurance

Get dental insurance from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company to help cover the services you're most likely to use -

✓ Cleanings ✓ X-rays ✓ Fillings ✓ Crowns ✓ Dentures

**1-855-337-5228**

Call now to get this **FREE** Information Kit!

[dental50plus.com/MDDC](http://dental50plus.com/MDDC)

Product not available in all states. Acceptance guaranteed for one insurance policy/certificate of this type. Contact us for complete details about this insurance solicitation. This specific offer is not available in CO, NY; call 1-888-799-4433 or respond for similar offer Certificate C250A (ID: C250E; PA: C250Q); Insurance Policy IPSO (GA: IPSOGA; NY: IPSONY; OK: IPSOOK; TN: IPSOTN); 6154-0120

**We Are Open For Business!**

**FREE ESTIMATE**

**302.300.4551**

Locally Owned & Trusted Since 1989

**Master Elite**

**5 YEARS VELUX**

**Get your FREE Estimate set up call 24/7**

**BBB**

**ROOFING**

**WINDOWS**

**SIDING**

**GUTTERS**

**SKYLIGHTS**

\*\*\*\*\*

### Lord Baltimore Women's Club Presidents 1934 – 2020

1934 – 1937  
1937 – 1938  
1938 – 1939  
1940 – 1942  
1942 – 1944  
1944 – 1946  
1946 – 1948  
1948 – 1950  
1950 – 1952

Mrs. Mattie Townsend  
Mrs. Marian Noble  
Mrs. Mary Calhoun  
Mrs. Maude Mitchell  
Mrs. Viola Betts  
Mrs. Catherine Lane  
Mrs. Annette Butler  
Mrs. Lula Kempston  
Mrs. Helen Kauffman



1952 – 1954	Mrs. Libby Graef
1954 – 1956	Mrs. Georgia Vandergrift
1956 – 1958	Mrs. Catherine Mead
1958 – 1960	Mrs. Vickie Phillips
1960 – 1962	Mrs. Barbara Sutton
1962 – 1964	Mrs. Lillian West
1964 – 1966	Mrs. Sally Daisey
1966 – 1968	Mrs. Hattie Russell
1968 – 1970	Mrs. Mary Kinley
1970 – 1972	Mrs. Vickie Phillips
1972 – 1974	Mrs. Dorothy Murray
1974 – 1976	Mrs. Margaret Justice
1976 – 1978	Past Presidents Each Presided for a Month
1978 – 1980	Mrs. Libby Graef
1980 – 1982	Mrs. Barbara Sutton
1982 – 1984	Mrs. Barbara Sutton
1984 – 1986	Mrs. Theresa Pitman
1986 – 1988	Mrs. Jessie Fefel
1988 – 1990	Mrs. Nancy Witmer
1990 – 1992	Mrs. Jessie Fefel
1992 – 1994	Mrs. Mickie Kyles
1994 – 1996	Mrs. Louise Dale
1996 – 1998	Mrs. Mable Schultz
1998 – 2000	Mrs. Peggy Bird
2000 – 2002	Mrs. Ruth Ann Bilowith
2002 – 2004	Mrs. Peggy Bird
2004 – 2006	Mrs. Carol Dennis
2006 – 2008	Mrs. Anne Parler
2008 – 2010	Mrs. Mimi Drew
2010 – 2012	Mrs. Mimi Drew
2012 – 2014	Mrs. Pat Nitzsche
2014 – 2016	Mrs. Pat Nitzsche
2016 - 2018	Mrs. Barbara Sunderlin
2018 – 2020	Mrs. Barbara Sunderlin
2020 -	Mrs. Carolyn Pesce