



Cary Woman's Club

Member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs

December 2015

"Serving Our Community • Sharing Our Time and Talents"



President's Message ~ Lois Nixon



As we approach the end of the year of 2015, (where did all those months go, anyway?) we get lots of appeals for help and for giving to celebrate this season of giving. In addition to all the appeals that come in the mail, and email, we have done our share of asking members to contribute to the various activities that our club supports through Arts, Conservation, Education, Home Life, International Outreach, and Public Issues. We have asked you, our members, to sell 800 pounds of pecans, to bring gifts that fit into a shoebox for Operation Christmas Child, to help make ornaments for our tree for the Cary Giving Tree Project, to donate food or gift cards for The Caring Place, to share plants and work in the new Pollinator Garden, to help with the fundraiser and donation of clothes for schoolchildren for Note in the Pocket, to bring coupons to meetings for Labels for Education, to collect Halloween costumes for InterAct, and to donate items for mother and child gifts for the Interact Christmas party, and to save your spare change to help buy books for children in local Title I schools! WHEW!!!

A huge thank you to each of you who has participated in one or more of these community service projects!

However, please don't feel that you need to give to every cause. We are a diverse club with varied interests and talents. We want members to give their

"special gifts" to the causes that they are most passionate about.

And we offer a variety of options for participation, in hopes that everyone finds something that they love to support with their time, or talent, or in-kind items, or funds. But we certainly don't expect everyone to do everything! Some members prefer to give time rather than money, and others would prefer to give a donation in support rather than give up their precious and limited time. Thank goodness we have a variety of members with diverse talents and interests, because if all of us were the same, it would not be an interesting or effective club. Sincere thanks for what each of you does to support our club and help our community. Perhaps it has helped you, too. I hope this holiday is special and joyful for each of you.

Let Every Day Be Christmas

Christmas is forever, not for just one day.

For loving, sharing, giving, are not to put away like bells & lights & tinsel, in some box upon a shelf.

The good you do for others is good you do yourself.

(Written by Norman W. Brooks)



Holiday Hugs ~ Lois Nixon, President,

December Luncheon at Prestonwood



Cary Woman's Club will have its Thursday, December 10th Holiday Luncheon meeting at Prestonwood Country Club, 300 Prestonwood Parkway, Cary 27513. ~ If you still need to make a reservation, please call **Maryanne** Olsen by this Friday, December 4th.

Members will meet at 11:00 a.m.; buffet line will begin promptly at 11:30 a.m.

The buffet cost is \$25.00 (same as last year). Your check may be mailed to **Maryanne Olsen**, Treasurer. Or, please call Maryanne right away to make your reservation for this important meeting.

Remember ~ members are welcome to **BRING GUESTS**, just in case any new members aren't aware of it. Thanks, and we hope all of our members will be able to attend the luncheon, hopefully with a guest. ~ **Maryanne Olsen**, Treasurer, Cary Woman's Club

Program: We plan to do a little art project on 'Twas the Night Before Christmas, the poem by Clement C. Moore. The poem will be presented by **Willa Brigham**, and each table will make a simple centerpiece from a pre-packaged arrangement to give to a nursing home. It's cute. Soft Christmas music will be playing in the background. See you there!
~ Shirley Barnes ~

Arts CSP: Holiday Gifting Tree

Once again, Arts CSP decorated our *Holiday Gifting Tree* in downtown Cary. Tree decorating took place on December 2nd. Trees will remain on display through December 30th.

Tree Decorating Team: We had seven women who put up this creative and lovely tree. **Willa Brigham, Dorothy Schmelzeis, Lillian Smith, Philomina Vaidya, Susan Abbott, Jane Suppa, and Lois Nixon.** Many thanks!!

Voting on "best trees" info and details will be sent out later after the Town of Cary gets that in place on their website.

~ *Willa Brigham, Arts CSP Chair,*



Pecans Still Available!



We have lots of **dark and milk chocolate pecans** still available and will bring them to the Christmas luncheon. Or call and let us know you want some more. They make great *hostess gifts!* ~ *Dorothy Schmelzeis, Eileen Nulty, and Diana Johnson*

Gift Baskets for InterAct

Public Issues CSP Committee will be making *gift baskets* for InterAct on **Thursday, December 3rd** at **9:30 a.m.**, at the home of **Priscilla Keating**, 208 Tynemouth Drive, Cary, NC 27513. Please contact Priscilla if you are interested in helping.



The next event that they need help with is the **2015 Holiday Bazaar** in December. Please donate toys for children and also gifts for Mom. We will donate gift baskets for the Moms, and perhaps also some gift cards

in increments of \$10 or \$20 from stores such as Target or Walmart that can be used for gifts. You can also view and purchase gifts online at the following:

- * www.walmart.com, click on Lists, First Name: INTERACT, Last Name: HOLIDAY BAZAAR, State: North Carolina.
- * Or - Amazon Smile, www.smile.amazon.com, click on Wish Lists and Find a Wish List, enter: InterAct, select: InterAct, Raleigh, NC.

~ Thank you so much! *Priscilla Keating, Public Issues CSP Chair*

Home Life ♦ Food & Staples Collection at the Holiday Luncheon

Important ... please remember that Home Life will be collecting staple goods/non-perishable foods for *The Caring Place* at our **December 10th Luncheon** at Prestonwood Country Club. We can use non-perishable foods, canned goods, (*no* glass containers), paper goods, etc. ~ anything for homeless families setting up a new apartment or transitional housing. Gift cards

would also be appreciated; also gift cards to Harris Teeter, Lowes Foods, grocery stores, etc.

Foods/snacks/drinks that children and teenagers like will be especially helpful!

The Caring Place, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, teaches homeless, working families with children life skills for independent



living while providing short-term housing and support.

Since 1993, over 300 Wake County families have been given the opportunity to transition from homelessness to independence.

For more information on the work of The Caring Place, call them at 919-462-1800.

Many Thanks with Operation Christmas Child



Thank you wonderful women of this hard-working Cary Women's Club for your support of *Operation Christmas Child*. With your partnership, my church (Lincolntonville AME) packed **77 boxes** of gifts. These boxes will be shipped to children all over the world. Operation Christmas Child is a project of Billy Graham's Samaritan's Purse.

Also ... Thank you to the hard-working Arts Committee for your participation in making ornaments for Cary's Gifting Tree Project.

GET READY ... **January Is Arts Month**, and we will have an *Arts Contest*. Please bring your favorite art work and enter it into our contest. YOU could be a winner and go on to the next level. *Thanks!* ~ *Willa Brigham, Arts CSP Chair,*

Education Projects Successful

Education CSP Chairs, Deborah and Silvia, want to wish everyone a peaceful and blessed holiday season.

As we approach this joyous time of the year, let us pause to reflect on our many blessings; and remember that we may not be able to help everyone, but each of us can help at least one person ~ and not just at Christmas, but throughout the entire year. The need never goes away.



Thank you to everyone who took a card for the *Note in the Pocket Cornucopia New Clothing Drive*. Donations have been steadily coming into the UPS Store located at Park West. Anyone who has not dropped off their purchase yet, please do so as soon as you can. **Remember ... It Takes a Village (Deborah)**. ~ Thank you. **Deborah Lynch, and Silvia Barba, Education Co-Chairs**

CSP Reporting Forms

Included as an attachment with this newsletter is the reporting form you should use to record any hours, money spent, and so on for your volunteer activities, both individual and club-related. You may email the completed form(s) to **Karen** or print them out and give them to her at the Christmas luncheon. All forms are due by January 15 and should include the calendar year January 2015 to December 2015.

~ Thanks! **Karen Fiumara, 2nd VP**

The Caring Place



Ladies ... Below is a synopsis of **The Caring Place (TCP)** that I sent to Lois as there was some misunderstanding as to what they exactly did. Besides financial assistance, we are always in need of volunteers, as they are the life blood of the organization as they work with the individual families weekly for 16 weeks.

Synopsis: The Caring Place (TCP) mission is to provide transitional housing and services to homeless, working families with children. We teach families how to budget, find housing and take care of fundamental needs, etc., during the 16-week period they are with us. During that time they are expected to escrow money monthly so that by the end of the 16-week, rent-free, utilities-free period, they have enough funds for a deposit and rent on a decent place to live.

The Caring Place has seven places we own and one rental, thus being able to house eight families during the 16-week period. Requirements:

1. Employment required.
2. If substance abuse problem, must be "clean" for one year.
3. Must have children.
4. Must adhere to the rules.

Website: www.thecaringplace.org. We're also on Facebook!

~ Thanks so much. **Mercedes Auger** (on Board of Directors & Advisory Board of The Caring Place (Community Volunteer), The Caring Place, Inc., 491 James Jackson Ave, Cary, NC 27513.

Nominations Committee 2015-2016

Below are the names of the four (4) 2015-2016 Nominations Committee Members.

Mercedes Auger, Chair
Cathy McClay

Jane Suppa
Willa Brigham

The Bylaws state:

"Clubwomen shall be a member of the Cary Woman's Club for one year before being nominated for the position of President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, 3rd Vice President, and Treasurer. There will be no time requirement for Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary."

"No member may serve on the Executive Committee for more than four consecutive years. There shall be a one year intermission before eligibility for reelection."

Elections are held at the April meeting, and newly elected officers shall assume their duties immediately following installation at the May meeting.

~ Many thanks! **Mercedes Auger** ~

Official Name for "Grants Committee"

The official name is now Grants/Community Service Projects Committee.
The members are **Silvia Barba** as chair, **Priscilla Keating**, **Nancy Skelding**, **Mary Derrick**, **JoAnn Minor**, **Margie McLawhorn**, **Mary-Mel Kroeger**, **Maryanne Olsen**, and **Philomina Vaidya**.

NEW MEMBERS (as of Nov. 2015)

- ✓ Anne Mackie
- ✓ Pat (Marsha) Paulette Sweeney
- ✓ Barbara Shepard



(Barbara is President of Sister Cities Association of Cary)



Let's Grow Our Membership

Ladies, once again, I am encouraging each and every member to make an effort to invite one person to attend our meetings. If only a small percentage joined, we would be adding at least 5 members. This has to be a joint effort. I have notices available for distribution.

Looking forward to another successful year.
~ *Jane Suppa, 1st VP Membership*

International Outreach

NC Chinese Lantern Festival of Cary: Running now through January 3rd. Tickets on sale now at www.boothamphitheatre.com or info@boothamphitheatre.com, or call 919-462-2025. Festival will be at Booth Amphitheatre, 8003 Regency Parkway, Cary. ~ *Karen Fiumara, International Outreach CSP Chair*

Cary Woman's Club ~ Check Out Our New Website

Our new website is up and running now, thanks to our webmaster, **Susan Abbott**.
The address is www.carywomansclub.com. If you have questions or comments, please contact Susan.

December 2015 Dates to Remember

Dec. 7 ~ First Day of Hanukkah	Dec. 25 ~ Christmas Day
Dec. 10 ~ Holiday Luncheon Meeting, Prestonwood	Dec. 26 ~ First Day of Kwanzaa
Dec. 22 ~ First Day of Winter	Dec. 31 ~ New Year's Eve
Dec. 24 ~ Christmas Eve	

"Our Hearts Go Out to France"



from *GFWC News&Notes, Nov. 2015*

"GFWC stands in solidarity with our *brothers and sisters in France*. Our thoughts go out to the victims of these horrible tragedies and to the people of Paris."

Continue Saving Education Coupons

Each **Box Tops Education Coupon** is worth 10 cents. This does not cost us anything and is a big help. Coupons can be found on Betty Crocker, Pillsbury, Land of Lakes, Scott products, reams of copy paper and many other products. Cut them off and put them in the box at the check-in nametag table. These will benefit the **Tammy Lynn Center** for autistic and handicapped children, www.tammylynncenter.org.

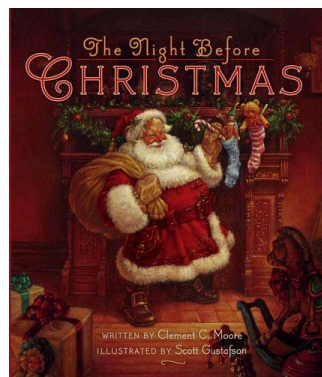




Happy Holidays & Best Wishes for a Prosperous New Year



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|| Cary Woman's Club Newsletter
|| P.O. Box 918 ■ Cary, NC 27512-0918
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|| President: *Lois Nixon*
|| 1st VP (Membership): *Jane Suppa*
|| 2nd VP (Programs & Reports): *Karen Fiumara*
|| 3rd VP (Ways & Means): *Dorothy Schmelzeis*
|| Recording Secretary & Yearbook:
|| *Silvia Barba*
|| Corresponding Secretary: *Mary-Mel Kroeger*
|| Treasurer: *Maryanne Olsen*
|| Newsletter Editor: *Vicki Jeter*
|| Publication Deadline: 24th of each month
|| Website Liaison: *Susan Abbott*
|| Website: www.carywomansclub.com
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