



Cary Woman's Club

Member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs

November 2015

"Serving Our Community • Sharing Our Time and Talents"



President's Message ~ Lois Nixon



I am THANKFUL ... to live in a democracy, even though it is often a messy process and

extremely frustrating to read in the morning paper most days about the ceaseless and senseless political bickering.

But I am thankful that I do not worry about my government killing my neighbors and me, or that there are centuries-long conflicts and wars, making it hazardous to even venture outside my house to shop for food. I cannot fathom the utter desperation that would compel a mother with an infant and two young children to walk away from her home, history and extended family, with limited funds and no prized possessions or even clothes, to venture on a hazardous 2,000-mile migration northward across desert, through rain and mud, freezing nights, unwelcoming border guards, across seas in leaky boats, extortion by unethical "helpers," and the possibility of death for some or all

of her family at every leg of the journey ... all in order to have a better dream for her family's future. Unimaginable!

I am THANKFUL ... that we live in a culture that values volunteerism. We take it for granted, but a volunteer spirit is nearly unique to our country, with a few other exceptions worldwide.

As volunteers, we cannot help all of the world's desperate and pleading mothers and children and families, but we can do plenty for those who are



disadvantaged and in need in our own community. And we can actively exercise our responsibility as citizens to protect and improve our own democracy, by voting in every election and appreciating our freedoms and the privileged life we enjoy.

I am THANKFUL ... that our club takes these responsibilities to heart. I am THANKFUL for **Deborah Lynch** and her volunteer committee who organized a highly

successful *Pocket Party* to benefit *Note in the Pocket*, raising about \$4,000 for school children in need.

And I am THANKFUL for **Diana Johnson** and **Eileen Nulty**, who are navigating the *pecan sale* with great enthusiasm and good humor.

Thanks to their efforts and to YOU, our members, for your purchases. You will be able to pick up your pecan order at the November 12th meeting to begin your holiday baking, and we will have funds for other community service projects, as well as for our club's annual operating expenses.

What are you most THANKFUL for? ~ *Lois Nixon, President*,

MEETING LOCATION

Page-Walker Arts & History Center

119 Ambassador Loop, 3rd Floor, Downtown Cary, 27513

Thursday, November 12th, 2015

9:30 a.m. (Coffee & Social)

10:00 a.m. (Program & Business Meeting)

Margaret Mead's quote comes to mind: "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

Guest Speaker for November ~ Public Issues



Our Public Issues CSP speaker for November will be **Alicia Dismuke**, the Cary Fire Prevention Public Education Specialist for the Town of Cary. Alicia will discuss fire safety and prevention.

We are also hoping to have a representative from Cary's CERT program (Community Emergency Response Team), which does disaster preparedness. Thank you! ~ **Priscilla Keating**, Public Issues CSP Chair



Public Issues CSP Meeting

The first meeting of the Public Issues CSP will be Tuesday, November 27th, 9:30 a.m., at the home of **Priscilla Keating**. Please contact Priscilla if you would be interested in attending.

November's After-Meeting Luncheon

We will be going to *La Shish* (offering a wide array of Mediterranean, Greek and vegetarian delicacies), located at Reedy Creek Plaza (near Reedy Creek Rd. & Food Lion), 908 NE Maynard Rd., Cary. They offer an astonishing array of authentic, home-cooked Greek and Middle Eastern delicacies. ~ *Silvia Barba*



Nuts to You!!

Thanks to **Diana Johnson** and **Eileen Nulty**, you can pick up your pecan orders at the November 12th meeting. So far, we have sold over 600 pounds. We will have about 50 more pounds to sell at the meeting, if you forgot to place your order or want to add more to what you have.

Orders will be distributed from the kitchen door next to the



elevator following the meeting, so you can carry them directly to your car. For those with large orders, Diana will call you to make arrangements to pick them up from her garage at your convenience – hopefully before the meeting date.

If you have favorite pecan **recipes** to include with this year's pecan orders, please submit them IMMEDIATELY to Eileen Nulty, so she can compile them onto the list to be given out with the pecan orders. **Lois** is waiting to add the winners of the pecan competition at this year's NC State Fair. ~ *Eileen Nulty, and Diana Johnson*

October's Relay Foods Follow-up ~ Promo Ordering Code & Discount



Following up from last month's program with **Athena Wollin** from *Relay Foods*, **Diana** and **Lois** met with the Relay Foods District Manager, Ryan Spears, to encourage them to carry our pecans for their customers for the holidays. They are very interested to do this next year, and they may be able to include a small trial run this year.

He reminded us that if you want to sign up for Relay Foods, be sure to do it through Athena or Ryan, so that you get the discount: athena.w@relayfoods.com or ryan.spears@relayfoods.com

For discounts, use Promo Code: **ATHENA10** ~ to receive \$10 off your first purchase.

The Birds & the Bees & the Butterflies ~ Pollinator Garden

There will be an initial workday on November 10 in the *Pollinator Garden* at the entrance to Page-Walker. If you would like to join the Pollinator Garden



group, please just show up on the work day, or sign up at the November 12 meeting.

For the others, please admire our work in the garden with our partners in this program, the Cary

Garden Club, and Friends of the Page-Walker, when you arrive for the CWC meeting on November 12.

Sign up for CSPs at the November 12 Meeting

It is our goal to have every member signed up and involved with at least one Community Service Program during the year. Working together is the best way to make new friends! To sign up, you can also contact Vice-President for Programs, **Karen Fiumara**



New Name for the "Grants Committee"

The committee "formerly known as Grants" is meeting and will surprise us at the November 12 meeting with a new name and a process that reflects our desire for two ways to impact our community – through grants to

outside organizations, as well as to make funds available throughout the year for special CSP projects.

~ *Lois Nixon, President*

Membership

Ladies ... 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 a successful year. ~ *Jane Suppa, 1st VP Membership*



Arts CSP: Operation Christmas Child

Willa Brigham is collecting items for *Operation Christmas Child* (www.samaritanaspurse.org). Please bring something for a child, male or female, ages 7-14 years that will fit into a *shoe box*.



Be part of changing children's lives worldwide through the power of a simple gift with Operation Christmas Child. Please, no liquids, lotions, gels, weapon toys, or chocolate.

Examples include: art supplies, socks, hats, calculators, etc. A small shoebox can have a big impact. What goes into the box is fun, but what comes out of it is eternal.

You will be helping to bring a bit of joy to children around the world. This project is part of **Billy Graham's Samaritan's Purse**. See Willa with questions.

~ *Willa Brigham, Arts CSP Chair*

Education CSP



The **Note in the Pocket Party**, held on October 13th at Ruckus 4 was a huge success, both financially and from an awareness-

raising perspective. The drop-off box at the UPS Store located at Park West has been filled to overflowing four times in the week following the event.

Fourteen of our members participated either by donating raffle items, making baskets, attending and/or donating! Four members of the Cary Newcomer's Club were also in attendance, and **Lois** was able to exchange names with one of the attendees and followed up regarding the Pecan Sale.

Thanks to some recent donations out of Florida, we officially made (to date) **\$4,000**, and as you know ~ 100% of the proceeds went to Note in the Pocket!

At the November meeting we will have an opportunity to *help clothe children in Wake County* who are limited in their educational and social development because they do not have appropriate clothes for school, by taking a "pocket" from the Note in the Pocket "*Pocket Cornucopia*," which will contain specific items that are in the greatest demand.

All too often, certain critical items are missing when making up a delivery, e.g., a brassiere for a middle school girl, or certain sizes, especially for boys. Take a pocket, pair up with a friend, neighbor, or take your grandchild shopping, which is an opportunity to teach a life's lesson at the same time. Hit a sale at Target, Walmart, or coupon offer at Kohl's; and then put the pocket with the item(s) and bring to the December 10th meeting ... or drop off at the UPS Store in Park

West (corner of Cary Parkway and Chapel Hill Rd.).

Also, at the November meeting we will be passing out *change containers* entitled "**Change for Books.**" Take one home, put it on your counter, and when you clean your purse out in the evening, or morning, put your loose change in the container. At each meeting we will have a larger container to dump your change into. At the end of the year we will be purchasing books for a Wake County Title I school. Specifics to follow in the coming months.

And finally, don't forget about the **Box Tops for Education Coupons** on specially marked packages! ~ Thank you! *Deborah Lynch, Education CSP Co-Chair*



International CSP ~ Don't Miss ...

NC Chinese Lantern Festival of Cary: November 28 through January 3. Tickets on sale now at website



www.boothamphitheatre.com or info@boothamphitheatre.com, or call 919-462-2025. Festival will be at Booth Amphitheatre, 8003 Regency Parkway, Cary. Thanks. ~ *Karen Fiumara, International Outreach CSP Chair*

InterAct's Fall Festival a Success!!



I would like to personally thank all those who contributed *costumes* for InterAct's Fall Festival. I spoke to the Volunteer Services Coordinator at InterAct, Christen Jones, and she stated that they were very thankful for our donations.

I recently went to visit Christen to discuss with her other ways that we, Cary Woman's Club, can continue to be involved with InterAct.

The next event that they need help with is the **2015 Holiday Bazaar**. We will be asking for donations of toys for children and also gifts for Mom. We would like to 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*

As we prepare to celebrate the season of thankfulness for our abundance, it is a perfect time to do something for those who do not share in that abundance.

Public Issues: "Friends of the Guardians" Program



As you know, several of us are involved with Guardian ad Litem's (GAL) program, and there is a terrific organization right here in Cary that exclusively supports them ~ *Friends of Wake County Guardian ad Litem Program*, a 501(c)3 nonprofit, www.friendsofwakegal.org.

The Friends have a table at the Cary Senior Center Holiday Craft Fair on Saturday, November 21st,

and are selling theme pillowcases - NFL, NCAA, Munchkin, and feminine themes - beautifully made, and all proceeds go to buying more fabric to make bags of all shapes and sizes for children in the Guardian program.

Foster children carry their meager worldly possessions from foster home to foster home in trash bags, boxes, etc., and our goal is to provide a duffle-type bag ~ especially for teenagers, or a superhero bag for younger children,

toiletry bags, fun pillowcases, fleece blankets ~ any and all items that are homemade and speak to the message ... "You Are Loved!"

We will have handouts at the November meeting to help you save the date. Also, anyone interested in cutting fabric, pressing, pinning, sewing ... please see **Deborah Lynch**. ~ Thanks! *Deborah Lynch and Priscilla Keating, Public Issues*

Arts + \$99 Quilts Sale by Willa



Willa Brigham will be hosting a \$99 quilt sale at "First Friday" at Linda Dallas' Art Studio (watercolor artist and food illustrator) on Friday, November 6th (6-9 p.m.), 606 N. Blount St., #2, Downtown Raleigh. All quilts are made by Willa.

Also, Willa's new book, *The Pizza Tree*, is now available on Amazon.com. It is a story of a little girl

who receives a magical seed from her world-traveling Grand Papa. Order your copy now from Amazon. Great for holiday gift giving! Stay tuned for a book-signing event.

Thanks for your support. ~ *Willa Brigham, Arts CSP Chair*

GFWC-NC ~ District 6 Fall Meeting Update

Mary Derrick and **Lois Nixon** attended the GFWC-NC District 6 Fall meeting on October 15, 2015, hosted by the Durham Woman's Club. District 6 includes Wake and eight surrounding counties. There are nine Districts in the state.



Two GFWC-NC officers also attended the meeting and reported on the state activities and plans. During the business meeting, District 6 formally voted to submit to GFWC-NC its report from the Financial Recommendations Committee concerning the GFWC-NC budget shortfall. These recommendations will be forwarded to the various committees of GFWC-NC. The 29 recommendations include those for cost-cutting, fundraising, improved communication, and program changes. Any CWC member who would like to see the entire list of recommendations can email **Lois** and will receive a reply with the document as an attachment. GFWC-NC President-elect, **Dottie Jennings**, gave a brief report on some changes that are already being implemented, but ~ *continues on next page* there is much more to be done. During the meeting, a fundraiser was held for GFWC-NC, to set an example for other Districts. A fundraiser was also held to benefit "sister" clubs in South Carolina impacted by the recent flooding.

Georgann Athanaelos Sapp, Recording Secretary of GFWC-NC, reminded clubs to submit their Honor Club donations by the December 15 deadline. If each of the 157 clubs in North Carolina contributes, it will also help with the financial situation.

CSP Chairs for District 6 for the 2016-18 Administration were nominated and elected. There are two from CWC – **Mary Derrick**, Home Life Chair, and **Lois Nixon**, Public Issues Chair. Mary will also represent District 6 on the State Officer nominating committee for 2018-2020, and **Silvia Barba** is an alternate on the committee to nominate State CSP Chairs for 2018-2020.

The state GFWC-NC Convention will be held April 27-30, 2016, at Atlantic Beach. **Save the date.** It would be great to have a group there from the Cary Woman's Club. ~ Many thanks! *Lois Nixon, President*

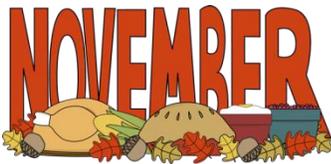
November Dates to Remember

- Nov. 1 ~ Daylight Savings Time Ends
- Nov. 3 ~ Election Day (where/ & if applicable)
- Nov. 11 ~ Veterans' Day
- Nov. 12 ~ November CWC Meeting**
- Nov. 12 ~ Pecan Distributions**
- Nov. 12 ~ Operation Christmas Child "Build a Shoebox" Collections**

- Nov. 26 ~ Thanksgiving Day**
- Nov. 27 ~ "Black Friday" Shopping Day for Bargains
- Nov. 28– Jan. 3 ~ NC Chinese Lantern Festival of Cary
- Nov. 29 ~ First Day of Advent
- Nov. 30 ~ Cyber Monday, busy computer/online budget-discounts shopping

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 || Cary Woman's Club Newsletter
 || P.O. Box 918 ■ Cary, NC 27512-0918
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 || President: *Lois Nixon*
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 || 3rd VP (Ways & Means): *Dorothy Schmelzeis*
 || Recording Secretary & Yearbook:
 || *Silvia Barba*
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 || Newsletter Editor: *Vicki Jeter*
 || Publication Deadline: 24th of each month
 || Website Liaison: *Susan Abbott*
 || Website: www.carywomansclub.com
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Have you noticed: We'd all like to vote for the best woman/man, but she/he's never a candidate.



Cary Woman's Club
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