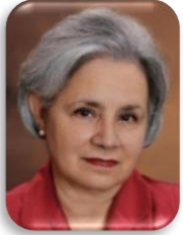




Member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs

December 2022



"Serving Our Community ♦ Sharing Our Time and Talents"

President's Message ♦ Mary Grayson Hart



It's difficult to believe that 2022 is coming to a close, and we are ushering in December. I just removed the pumpkins off the front porch and the rest of the remnants from Thanksgiving. I'm excited to get ready to bring out all of the holiday decorations—my favorite color is red!

I recently attended several Zoom meetings about our GFWC-NC President's Special Project, the Mountains-to-Sea Trail, and it's so wonderful to see all of the support from across the state. Our GFWC-NC President Kim Fulcher recently sent me a note for all of our members in District VI letting everyone know how much she appreciates the generous donations to this project. This Special Project, along with so many GFWC projects across the state, are supported by generous members like those from our club. The Cary Woman's Club, like so many of our sister clubs, support the wonderful community work that happens not only at this time of year, but throughout the year. It's difficult to think at this festive time of year that so many are still in need, like the hurricane victims in Florida. As I shop and decorate this year, I really will be thinking a bit more about how fortunate we are. Please think about those who are less fortunate than we are and about donating maybe just a bit more to your favorite charity this year.

Our club will again be participating in the **Cary Gifting Tree Project**, and wouldn't it be fantastic if we could win the top prize and give it to one of the non-profit organizations that we support. Last year we had an amazing response to our tree we sponsored for Note in the Pocket, and we will again be supporting this organization, so please be sure to vote for the Cary Woman's Club tree!

Take a moment and look back to how many different ways we helped our community in 2022—and all of the time and talent of our members. I appreciate all of the good works that our club does—and so do so many others!

I hope everyone has a wonderful December filled with great holiday memories. Looking forward to seeing everyone at Prestonwood for our luncheon on December 8!

Happy Holidays!





December Birthdays

12/2 Elzbieta Hibbs

12/18 Arlene Gleason

12/31 Geraldine Ritter

Important Dates & Reminders

December 8 Holiday Luncheon at
Prestonwood 11:00 AM

December 14 Book Club meets 1:00 PM

December 15 Board Meeting

December 18 Placing of Wreaths at Hillcrest
Cemetery

December 25 Newsletter submissions due for
January newsletter

January 2 Meeting to plan for book drive

January 8 CSP reports due

Message from the Grants and Community Service Projects Program Committee

Hoping all of you had a Happy Thanksgiving! Before everyone becomes involved with preparations for the upcoming holiday season, just a reminder regarding the Grants & Community Service Projects Program.

The **FINAL DEADLINE**, for this club year, to receive an application for a Grant request (\$500 to \$1,000) or a Community Service Project request of up to \$250, is **Wednesday, February 1, 2023**. If approved, funding would take place by the end of March 2023. Additional information is available on the Cary Woman's Club website under Community Service. Here is a link for your convenience.

<https://carywomansclub.org/community-service-programs/grants-and-community-service-program/>

The committee would like to ask members to again reach out to non-profit organizations needing financial assistance, with encouragement to make an application for a grant. Last year, our members came through with finding applicants, which the committee appreciated!

I am pleased to share with you great news. Priscilla and Ken Keating have made a \$400 donation to the Grants & Community Service Project Program. I think I can speak for all club members when I say, we all are thankful for your thoughtfulness and generosity.

If there are any questions, please give me a call or email.

Mary-Mel Kroeger, Chair

www.carywomansclub.com

919-454-3329

mmkroeger@aol.com

Message from Lois Nixon, 1st Vice-President

As 2022 comes to an end, it is time to reflect on your year in the Cary Woman's Club and recall your contributions to community service. Please write down the **volunteer hours** you contributed to CWC activities and to the organizations that are doing the work of our club values. Form is attached to email.

Also make note and document the amount of **financial support** you gave these organizations, and the value of **in-kind support** such as donation of gift cards, toiletries, plants, household items, clothing, etc. Please include personal donations of time and money, even if they were not specifically CWC projects. For example, if you tutor students on your own, maintain public gardens, volunteer in schools or nursing homes, donate monthly to the USO, registered voters (nonpartisan) or encouraged people to vote (but NOT political contributions), or to educational or environmental organizations. All of these are within our programmatic goals, even though we do not do club-wide activities there. And they are within the state and national GFWC Resolutions and are supposed to be reported.

Please report these numbers to the appropriate CSP Chair, or to Lois Nixon (if you are not sure which category it fits into, but not to both to avoid duplication) no later than **January 8**, so that each CSP Chair can prepare the year end report draft, and we can submit it to the state by February 1, 2023!

I know that reporting is not anyone's favorite activity, but it is an important way to measure our community impact – and it will make you feel good to realize all you and we have accomplished! THANK YOU!



Health & Wellness CSP

Please remember to bring gift cards (Wal-Mart, Target, Grocery stores) for the Caring Place to our luncheon at Prestonwood. The Caring Place supports families who are in need of permanent housing.

We will have a Health and Wellness meeting Dec 5th at 11:00a.m. at my home.

Jane Suppa



Education & Libraries CSP

Christmas is a Time for Giving

Yes, Christmas is a time for giving and we are all swamped with donation requests from organizations that we have never heard of. But, we have heard of **Read & Feed** and if you have just a little bit of Christmas gift money left to spend you can **purchase a book for a child through the Read and Feed Wish List on Amazon**. The book is shipped directly to Read and Feed, no wrapping and bows necessary.

Hope you'll check it out:

Amazon: [General Wish List](#); [Diverse Curriculum: Black History Month Edition](#); and [Diverse Curriculum: Hispanic Heritage Month Edition](#).



Book Drive for Read & Feed.

Hope you enjoyed our November speaker Sherry Overton Shudra from Read & Feed. The Education & Libraries CSP was very happy with the presentation and the organization. The Ed & Lib CSP along with the Environment CSP will be planning a Book Drive in February 2023 for this organization and collecting books for elementary school children K to 5th grade. We will be meeting on Monday, January 2nd at 1pm at the home of Maryanne Olsen (309 Briardale Avenue, Cary). Everyone is welcome. Call or text Maryanne with any questions 919-740-4272

CWC Book Club

Our book club continues to be very popular with members and our December book is *The Last House on the Street*

From bestselling author Diane Chamberlain comes an irresistible new novel that perfectly interweaves history, mystery, and social justice.

When Kayla Carter's husband dies in an accident while building their dream house, she knows she has to stay strong for their four-year-old daughter. But the trophy home in Shadow Ridge Estates, a new development in sleepy Round Hill, North Carolina, will always hold tragic memories. But when she is confronted by an odd, older woman telling her not to move in, she almost agrees. It's clear this woman has some kind of connection to the area...and a connection to Kayla herself. Kayla's elderly

new neighbor, Ellie Hockley, is more welcoming, but it's clear she, too, has secrets that stretch back almost fifty years. Is Ellie on a quest to right the wrongs of the past? And does the house at the end of the street hold the key? Told in dual time periods, *The Last House on the Street* is a novel of shocking prejudice and violence, forbidden love, the search for justice, and the tangled vines of two families.

Our meeting this month is on Wednesday, December 14th from 1pm until 2:30pm at Jane Suppa's home (202 Muir Brook Place, Cary). Since this is the holiday season our hostess is planning a little something special in the way of treats. Hope you can make it.

January's book, in case you are reading ahead, is *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray. We will resume our usual meeting date of the 4th Thursday of the month starting 1/26/2023.

Kingswoods Elementary School – Open for Volunteers

We have heard that Kingswood Elementary School is open for volunteers once again. Great news for all of us wanting to get back to the volunteer work that we love.

According to the Librarian, Sarah Breeze, there is a special need for someone to volunteer in the library reshelving books and/or repairing books. If you are concerned about the winter bugs (covid, flu & RSV) then time could be scheduled when students are not present and the Library is quiet.

Contact Kingswoods if interested. All volunteers must pass criminal history and sexual offender registry checks and comply with WCPSS Board policy 5020: Visitors to the School.

For questions contact Maryanne Olsen, mgocary@yahoo.com

Maryanne Olsen



**Civic Engagement and Outreach/
Domestic Violence Prevention CSP**

Thank you for all the donations for the USO and Center for Volunteer Caregivers Holiday Gift Bags. Approximately \$400.00 worth of items were dropped off on Wednesday for the Senior Holiday Bags. A drop off date for the USO donations, about \$375.00, will be coordinated once the holiday traffic at RDU slows down.

The Friends of the Guardian ad Litem volunteer opportunity on November 17, was unfortunately canceled the day before the event. They appeared to have overbooked volunteers, we were not needed.

Saturday, December 17 at 12:00, all members are invited to participate in **Wreaths Across America at Hillcrest Cemetery, 608 Page St., Cary**. Veteran's wreaths will be placed on the headstones of American Heroes. Since Hillcrest is a small cemetery, the placing of wreaths should not take long.

At our January general membership meeting, the no sew blankets for Myra's Angels will be distributed for those who would like to make one. Instructions will be provided with each blanket. Completed blankets will be collected at the March meeting.

In January we will be honoring a group of first responders with coffee and cookies (or some other snack). Our committee will need to decide which first responders to honor. We hope to partner with Caribou Coffee again.

February is currently our month to provide a meaningful project and healthy snack for the Chrysalis Club at Raleigh Woman's Prison. Date and details are not yet available.

We will collect blankets for Myra's Angels at our March meeting.

Elzbieta Hibbs
Priscilla Keating



Arts & Culture CSP

Cary Gifting Tree Project

As we did in past years, we have purchased a Christmas Tree for the Cary Gifting Tree Project. We are planning to work with Note in the Pocket once again. Note in the Pocket will provide ornaments and a link where passers-by can make a holiday donation which will help provide clothing for students who need it.



Last year, this project generated \$3600 in donations for Note in the Pocket.

By the time you receive this newsletter, our tree will be on display on Academy Street right outside the Pink House. It will be decorated with the Note In The Pocket ornaments that were cut out by Susan, Lois, Halle, JoAnn, Arlene and Merc.

Each "POCKET" ORNAMENT on the tree has a unique URL on the back that seeks a contribution for clothing items for *Note in the Pocket's* mission of providing school clothing for children and families in need. If you are planning to make a donation this holiday season, please make it through this URL so that Cary Woman's Club is credited with the donation. Tell your friends and family too. Here is the direct link (URL) for making a contribution to Note in the Pocket:

<https://bit.ly/3DaukPM>

Voting on the best tree takes place from Saturday, December 3rd through Sunday, December 18th. Pictures below of our tree and members who decorated it on Dec. 1st.



The public is invited to cast their vote for People's Choice from Saturday, December 3, 2022 –Sunday, December 18, 2022, via the voting form at www.TownofCary.org/joy.

The people's choice winner will have a \$500 donation made in their name to the non-profit of their choice. In addition to first place, the town will award a \$250 donation for second place, and a \$100 donation for third place. People may vote only once for their favorite tree (one per IP address). **Please ask your friends and family to vote for our tree and come out to town to see it in the coming weeks.** There will be prizes for three winners announced on December 19.

Cary Woman's Club Arts Festival

Cary Woman's Club will be holding an Arts Fair in January at our regularly scheduled meeting on January 12, 2023. If you have crafts, needlework, artwork, photography, or original literature, it's not too early to start planning what you'd like to bring to submit for display for consideration. All entries must have been completed from January through December, 2022. First place winners at our local fair will be submitted to the district fair in February. Winners from the district will go to the State meeting in March.

Please see attachment to this email for more information on the categories and submission requirements.

Susan Abbott for Barb Sawyer

Hospitality

Special thanks to Lisa & Arlene for providing refreshments for our November meeting!

January: Priscilla Keating & JoAnn Minor
February: Brenda St Laurent & Marci Thomas
March: Lois Nixon & Joan Hall
April: Carol French & Elzbieta Hibb

Holiday Luncheon



Our December Holiday Luncheon will be at Prestonwood Country Club Thank you to all the members who have signed up and paid for the luncheon.

DATE: Thursday, December 8

LOCATION: Prestonwood Country Club, Salon E

TIME: 11:00

Mercedes Cooley, Judy McDonal and Jane Sowards



NUTS NOTE!

Thanks to everyone who has purchased pecans and delivered them to your friends and family! We hope you are enjoying fresh pecans.

We have some extras: for sale:

Honey roasted – 4 pounds

Praline - 4 pounds

Milk chocolate. -5

If you are interested in purchasing some of our extras, please contact Lois.

Thanks to Lois for providing us with the copies of "Pecan" Recipes at our last meeting. Many club members had submitted recipes and they look delicious!

Mercedes Cooley & Lois Nixon

MEETING LOCATION
Page-Walker Arts & History Center
119 Ambassador Loop, 1st Floor,
Downtown Cary, 27513
Thursday, January 12, 2023
10:00 AM

=====

	Cary Woman's Club Newsletter	
	P.O. Box 918 ▪ Cary, NC 27512-0918	
	President: *Mary Grayson Hart*	
	1st VP (Programs & Reports): *Lois Nixon*	
	2nd VP (Membership): *Marcie Thomas*	
	3rd VP (Ways & Means): *TBD*	
	Recording Secretary:	
	Arlene Gleason	
	Corresponding Secretary & Yearbook: *Lisa*	
	Butcher	
	Treasurer: *Diane Andersen*	
	Publication Deadline: 25th of each month	
	Newsletter: *Mercedes Cooley*	
	Website Liaison: *Susan Abbott*	
	Website: www.carywomansclub.com	

=====

