



# Abundance News

## GFWC Woman's Club of Stuart

“Celebrating 107 Years of Community Service”  
*A Member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs\**

Volume 22, Issue 10

Paulette Holliday, Editor

June 2020

### From the Desk of President Jo Baxter



We've missed seeing your smiling faces – but we have a solution for that!

Join our Virtual Meeting on **Wednesday, June 17, 2020 from 4-6 PM.** The theme is a patriotic happy hour, so we encourage you to wear red, white and/or blue. Flag Day is celebrated on June 14, so wear a flag pin if you have one. No mask required!

The idea for the virtual meeting came out of a Literary Group video conferenced meeting recently. It was so nice to see everyone's faces and Melissa Welch, our Literary Group moderator, suggested we have a meeting for the whole club. Melissa will host the virtual meeting on Webex, which is an internet platform that works like Zoom. It's free and can handle up to 100 people in a meeting. So be sure you're one of the first 100 members to RSVP!

It's very easy to RSVP. Melissa created a flyer about the virtual meeting that is included in this newsletter. All you have to do is click on the RSVP link. Melissa will follow up later with directions for joining the meeting.

I look forward to seeing you June 17!

“Sometimes good things fall apart so that better things can fall together”

*\*GFWC an International Women's Club  
dedicated to community improvements by  
enhancing the lives of others.*



THE GFWC WOMAN'S CLUB OF STUART

# VIRTUAL MEETING!

VIA WEBEX VIDEO CONFERENCE

on Wednesday June 17, 2020

at 4 - 6 pm ET

## THEME: PATRIOTIC HAPPY HOUR

- WEAR RED, WHITE OR BLUE
- BRING YOUR OWN DRINK
- JOIN US IN FRONT OF YOUR COMPUTER SCREEN



## HOW TO JOIN THE MEETING

- FIRST YOU MUST RSVP
- FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS THAT WILL FOLLOW IN A SEPARATE EMAIL
- DOWNLOAD WEBEX MEET APP (IT'S FREE)

## RSVP to the Virtual Meeting!

To RSVP “click” on the link below no later than Friday, June 12th. We will follow up with an email on Sunday, June 14th with instructions on how to join the meeting.

Google Form RSVP link - <https://forms.gle/gu68oDYWuKea5KB37>

## A Big THANKS! to Out-going Board Members...

The Woman's Club has 172 members, but much of the "business" of the Club is handled by members who volunteer and are elected to serve as officers. Most terms are limited to two years by our By-laws, and so we will be saying good-bye to several officers who have served us well.

The Executive Board sets operational policies, plans luncheons and meetings, votes on new members, maintains the financial records and oversees the work of the community service committees and special committees. Leaving the Executive Board are Hospitality VP **Paula Scheid**, Membership VP **Gail Kearney**, Recording Secretary **Ginger Shannon**, interim Corresponding Secretary **Sheryl Konen**, and Treasurer **Pam Tubbs**. Our Building Trustee, **Paula Rosen**, is leaving to take on new responsibilities as GFWC Florida District 10 Director.

The Board of Trustees handles all aspects of managing our property. That includes maintaining our building in good repair, investing money to protect it (as we did recently by installing hurricane windows and shutters), making sure the grounds are well-kept and attractive, etc. Leaving the Trustee Board is President **Sue Riordan**, **Ruth Martini** (who served as parliamentarian and is moving to the Executive Board as Treasurer), and **Susan Clifford**, who oversaw the upkeep and improvements of our grounds. **Barbara Forlenza**, who was a Trustee member-at-large, will serve as Building Trustee, which is appointed by the President.

I will miss working with these wonderful women. They could always be counted on to help, and handled their responsibilities with dedication and commitment. When you see them, please say thanks for a job well done!



**Paula Scheid**  
V.P. Hospitality



**Gail Kearney**  
V.P. Membership



**Ginger Shannon**  
Recording Secretary



**Sheryl Konen**  
Corresponding Secretary



**Pam Tubbs**  
Treasurer



**Paula Rosen**  
Building Trustee



**Sue Riordan**  
Trustee Chair



**Ruth Martini**  
Parliamentarian



**Susan Clifford**  
Member-at-Large



**Barbara Forlenza**  
Member-at-Large

## Record \$45,000 in Scholarships Awarded

By Jennifer McTeague  
Scholarship Committee Chair

The Woman's Club awarded a record \$45,000 in scholarships this year, bringing the total since 2010 to \$288,000. (This number doesn't include the scholarships that were awarded in past years to arts students, which would bring the total to more than \$300,000.)

Committee members include Lianne Hawkes, Lisa Pinkley, Christa Canavan and Diane Viola-Berrian. They reviewed just under 100 applications this year. Unfortunately, the Martin County School District had a glitch in their online application process, which significantly decreased the amount of applications. We did receive the highest number of direct applications to the club from students this year. Our scholarships are offered through the Community Foundation. Applicants must be female, Martin County residents, in the top one-fourth of their class scholastically and must show financial need.

Our committee reads each application thoroughly and we create notes for each applicant that we review during our final award meeting. The applications are 8-13 pages, must include two essays and three recommendation letters, and pertinent scholastic records. We have found that it is terribly difficult to read more than five at one sitting. Some of the applications are very emotional and moving. All our committee members are committed to thoroughly reviewing all applications. The students put a lot of time into their application and many cannot continue their education without scholarships.

Each committee member expressed to me how impressed they are with our high school graduates. Many students give a lot of volunteer time working with handicapped children, trafficked women, environmental concerns with our local waters, and an awareness club stemming from a tragedy they experienced. One middle school teacher recommended a girl who created a Harry Potter fan club, including wands, costumes and scavenger hunts.

This year, one of our recipients wrote about her interest in medical research, animal husbandry and vaccines. It is ironic that this high school senior wrote about vaccines in November 2019, just before the need for one occurred with the pandemic this year.

Here are this year's scholarship recipients:

**Haleigh Pham** received a renewable scholarship of \$2,000 for the University of Central Florida. **All high school students received \$3,000.** From Clark Advanced Learning Center: **Brittney Clemons, Sierra Hendricks, Kayla Keating, and Faith Olsen.** The Jensen Beach High recipient was **Jacqueline Ferro.** Martin County High winners were **Margaret McSoley, Kyla Messer, and Coral Strohl.** South Fork awardees are **Morgan Emmie, Melanie Garro, Mikayla Seco, and Madeline Shewmaker.**

Finally, the committee awarded \$7,000 for two scholarships to be administered by Indian River State College; one for a woman returning to school and one for a woman entering a certificate program.

## Notes of Thanks...

As of late May, the club had received thank-you notes from two of our scholarship winners.

Margaret McSoley wrote: *"Thank you so much for your generous scholarship of \$3,000. My post-high schools plans include finishing my Associates at Indian River State College and transferring to Florida State University in summer 2021 to obtain my Masters in the School of Interior Design. With your help, these plans are made possible. Your support is immensely appreciated by my family and me. Again, thank you so much for your financial support as I continue my academic career."*

Kayla Keating wrote: *"Thank you very much for awarding me your scholarship in the amount of \$3,000. I especially appreciate being selected for this scholarship because now I will have more time dedicated to my studies. I will be attending the University of Florida."*

## Make a Phone Call...



Several members have reported about very delightful phone calls they made to another club member, someone whom they may have known or not. In the last newsletter, we encouraged everyone to **call the person whose name follows yours in the Yearbook directory.**

The purpose of the call is to stay connected as a club during a time when we've not been able to meet. Ask how the member is doing, if they need help, and just generally get acquainted. It's not the same as face-to-face communication, but it's certainly rewarding. And everyone I've called expressed thanks in being remembered. So please, make that phone call. And if you already have, make another one!

## Vote by Mail Info...

There's a primary election August 18<sup>th</sup>, followed by the general election November 3<sup>rd</sup>, and the Martin County Election Department is urging residents to vote by mail. You can request a mail ballot by going to [MartinVotes.com](https://www.martinvotes.com) or calling [772-288-5637](tel:772-288-5637). Here are some things the county election folks want us to know about voting by mail:

- Vote by Mail requests are valid for only four years.
- Vote by Mail ballots cannot be forwarded.
- If your Vote by Mail ballot is to be mailed to an address other than the one on file, a signature is required.
- Your ballot will be mailed to you at least 40 days prior to Election Day (45 days for military and overseas voters.)

## Plans for the Fall...

What's going to happen in the fall? That's the number one question on most everyone's mind, about just everything. Will there be a second wave of the pandemic? Will there be an effective treatment widely available? How about a vaccine? The news recently has been promising, with progress on plasma treatments plus an antiviral drug (Remdisever) that appears to shorten the length of the Covid-19 disease. And several companies are making good progress on a vaccine. Yet, there are plenty of warnings not to forget steps to slow the spread of the virus, such as social distancing, wearing a mask in public, etc.

**The bottom line: it's too soon to answer these questions.**

However, the Woman's Club is planning to resume meetings in September. We may have to make some adjustments, and again, just what they might be is too soon to know. The Executive Board will meet in early August to decide the path ahead. In the meantime, we hope you and your loved ones stay well. And please, do stay connected.

## Dues \$\$\$ are Due...

Do you want to be included in the 2020-21 Yearbook directory?

Be sure you send your dues to the clubhouse soon. **Dues were due on May 31, but we will accept dues now until June 30 without a late charge.** A dues form is included with this newsletter.



RETURN THIS FORM WITH YOUR CHECK TO  
GFWC WOMAN'S CLUB OF STUART, ATTENTION ASSISTANT TREASURER

GFWC Woman's Club of Stuart

729 East Ocean Boulevard

Stuart, FL. 34994

www.gfwcwomansclubofstuart.com

**MEMBERSHIP DUES for 2020 - 2021**

Membership classification shall be Active, Associate, Senior, and Honorary. All classes shall conduct the business of the Club and shall share in its responsibilities.

Circle Membership Category that Applies to You:

An **ACTIVE** member is one who has paid her dues and actively participates in Club functions. An Active member must attend at least two business meetings per year, attend an orientation as provided, be a member of a Community Service Committee, participate in one business/program meeting as a part of hospitality, and participate in at least one Club fundraising project.

**ACTIVE Membership (No Luncheons).....\$85**

**ACTIVE Membership (Monthly Luncheons Included).....\$120**

An **ASSOCIATE** member is one who has paid her dues and because of a physical condition or illness, is inactive in the work of the Club. Written request for Associate membership shall be submitted to the Executive Board for approval. An Associate member is excluded from the expectations of an Active member.

**ASSOCIATE Membership .....\$55**

A **SENIOR** member is one who has paid her dues and is excluded from the expectations of an Active member. When she has reached the age of eighty (80) and has been a member of a Federated Club for five (5) years or more, a written request for Senior membership may be submitted to the Executive Board for approval.

**SENIOR Membership (No Luncheons).....\$50**

**SENIOR Membership (Monthly Luncheons Included).....\$85**

Remittance Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ payable to: GFWC Woman's Club of Stuart

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Print your name to be listed in yearbook.

Print CORRECTIONS and/or CHANGES for the 2020-2021 WCS Yearbook.

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Primary \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**MEMBERS FAILING TO PAY DUES BY JULY 1ST WILL BE DROPPED FROM  
THE WCS MEMBERSHIP AND YEARBOOK.**