

## The Woman's Club of Clayton

109 Church St  
Mailing Address:  
PO Box 26  
Clayton, NC 27528  
[twccnc.org](http://twccnc.org)

NC General  
Federation of  
Women's Clubs  
[www.gfwcnc.org](http://www.gfwcnc.org)



The Woman's Club of Clayton is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC), an international women's organization dedicated to community improvement by enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service.

### Officers

President

**Betsy Grannis**

1st Vice President

**Sarah Brooks**

2nd Vice President

**Brenda Hill**

Recording

Secretary

**Loretta Mascia**

Corresponding

Secretary

**Susan Johnson**

Treasurer

**Judy Ryan**

### Inside this issue:

President's Message	1
Meeting Information	2
CSP/Comm Reports	3-7
Recipes	8
Calendar	9
Miscellaneous	10

# Club Chatter



Volume 2021, Number 9

December 2021

## From Our President

*Betsy Grannis*

We have a great meeting planned for you for our **December meeting!** The Executive Board is responsible for the program. We want everyone to have a fun time, so we have planned activities, games, and some Christmas music to entertain you. Please plan to attend and respond to the request that goes out ahead of the meeting so that we know how many to plan for. It will be a festive time, for sure!

Our **Tree Lighting Food Sale** is right around the corner on Thursday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, from 5:30pm - 7:30pm. We have had a wonderful response from our members who are donating the food; and from those that will be working the sale on the evening of the Tree Lighting. We are looking forward to a wonderful evening! Please come out and enjoy the evening if you are so inclined. Michael and I have been chosen as **Mr. and Mrs. Christmas** for this year's festivities and will get to ride to Town Square in the carriage with Santa; and to light the Clayton Town Christmas tree! So exciting!

We are also busy working on two of our club's strongest service pro-

jects. Thank you to all of those who are shopping for a senior in our **Golden Wishes** program; and those who are shopping for the children of our **Christmas Kids** program. It means so much to the recipients of these gifts; and thank you for the gift of your time in assisting with these projects.

**Candyland at the Garden** is in place and has been included in the People's Choice selections for the Downtown Decorating Contest. Please take a moment and vote for the garden on the Downtown Clayton Facebook page, just look for the Holiday Decorations Contest for the opportunity to make your choice count. Candyland looks wonderful again this year and many thanks go to those who helped to put everything in place. Special thanks to Rachel Masimore and her daughter, Melissa Francis, for all their efforts! Great job, Ladies!!



The committee for the **Murder Mystery Dinner** is busy finalizing plans for our fundraising event. The dates are January 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, and Margaret Lee and Nancy Maynard will have more information to share at our meetings. Stay tuned...

Finally, I would like to wish all of you a Blessed Holiday Season and a Joyous New Year!



## November Meeting Highlights

Page 2



Happy 59th Anniversary!

Larry and Linda Strevig

**WELCOME**  
*New Members*

*Dixie Brady (CEO)*

*Lana Cooper (A&C)*

*Jeanne Dahl (CEO)*



Dixie Brady



Lana Cooper

**Subscribe to  
GFWC  
News & Notes**

Simply provide your name, mailing address, email, and club name to [gfwc@gfwc.org](mailto:gfwc@gfwc.org)

The **November meeting** was held on November 10th at the clubhouse with 34 members and 3 guests attending. The **Health & Wellness CSP and Civic Engagement & Outreach CSP** co-hosted the meeting and Betsy Grannis provided the delicious Thanksgiving entrée. The devotion and blessing was given by Brenda Gay. While the meal was being served,



Betsy Grannis announced that the **Read for the Record** books had finally arrived and have been delivered to the designated schools.

She read the delightful book, [Amy Wu and the Patchwork Dragon](#) by Kat Zhang.

The program was presented by Officer Neal Johnson, the Community Policing Officer with the **Clayton Police Department**, who spoke about crime in Clayton. One message that came through loud and clear was **Lock Your Car**—even in your own driveway!



**LOCK ME UP!**



**Highlights** from the meeting:

- 3 **guests** were introduced (Barbara Barrakat, Amy Ferguson, Diane Greene).
- The **Night 'n' Gals** meetings will be held **virtually** at 7:00pm the Thursday after the lunch meeting. Members who are unable to attend the Wednesday meeting are welcome to attend the virtual meeting. The meeting link will be sent out to all members 2 days prior to the virtual meeting.
- **New member orientation** will be held November 16th at 11:00am at the clubhouse.
- Betsy Grannis reported on the **GFWC-NC Fall Conference** held in Asheville, November 5-6. Betsy will serve as a GFWC-NC trustee for the next 5 years.
- The town's **Christmas Tree Lighting** will be on December 2nd. TWCC will once again sell hot dogs and BBQ sandwiches, chips and drinks during the event, 5:30pm-7:30pm. If you did not sign up at the meeting and want to help, contact Betsy Grannis.
- Two **Murder Mystery Dinners** are planned for January 14-15. Tickets will be \$35/person.
- Judy Ryan reported that plans for the **Small Town Gala**, the club's largest fundraiser, are moving along. It will be held March 19th at The Farm@42. Members interested in helping with an event committee should contact Judy or Loretta Mascia.
- Members were encouraged to sign up for **Christmas Kids and Golden Wishes** (there were sufficient volunteers for Golden Wishes but more shoppers are needed for Christmas Kids). 50 kid names will come from Johnston Academy, Cooper Academy and West Clayton Middle School. Shoppers will be reimbursed \$75/child.
- Trish Perna, Co-chair of the Environment CSP, talked about the **donated trees** she will be receiving in November. She had hoped to donate them to Parks and Recreation but has had no response. Any members interested in the trees should contact Trish.
- Members were able to sign up for meals for **House of Hope** (contact Nancy Maynard if you would like to volunteer for one month).
- The **Clayton Civitan Club Reverse Raffle** will be held virtually on December 3rd. Tickets are \$100 and there is a chance to win **\$10,000**. A portion of the funds raised will be given to TWCC to help pay for Christmas Kids.

**December 2**

Town Tree Lighting  
Food for Sale at TWCC  
Clubhouse 5:30-7:30pm

**December 3**

Civitan Virtual Reverse  
Raffle

**December 4**

Rise Against Hunger  
Christ Community UMC  
10am-Noon

**December 4**

TWCC Pampered Chef  
Fundraiser  
Donna Steele's Home  
11am

**December 6**

ESO Book Club  
TWCC Clubhouse 9:30am

**December 7**

Environment CSP  
Set Up  
TWCC Clubhouse 10am

**December 8**

TWCC Lunch Meeting  
11:45am  
TWCC Clubhouse

**December 9**

Night 'N' Gals  
TWCC Clubhouse 7pm

**December 10**

Bingo  
Clayton Senior Center  
10am

**December 13**

Christmas Kids Dropoff  
Clubhouse before 10am

**December 14**

House of Hope Meal

**December 14**

TWCC Executive Board  
TWCC Clubhouse 10am

**December 28**

TWCC Bunco  
TWCC Clubhouse 1pm

**January 14-15, 2022**  
Murder Mystery Dinners

**February 3, 2022**

TWCC Art Festival  
Clayton Center

**March 12, 2022**

GFWC-NC Arts Festival  
Mebane Arts Center

**March 19, 2022**

TWCC Gala  
Farm at 42

**April 22-23, 2022**

GFWC-NC Annual  
Convention  
Marriott Winston-Salem

## Health & Wellness CSP

Co-Chairs: Nancy Maynard, Marybeth Bailey



A great big **THANK YOU** to Health and Wellness CSP members for an awesome job hosting the November meeting. The house looked beautiful. It's wonderful to see everyone jump into action making things run smoothly.

Since we are currently not packing bags for our **Backpack Buddies**, the club will be purchasing 10 Christmas Food Boxes out of the Backpack Buddy account. These will go to some of the families that would already benefit from the Backpack Buddy program. Thank you, Marie for orchestrating this plan. (Pictured at right are Dianne Carroll and Marie Monsees presenting the \$300 check to Clayton First Baptist Church).



Trish Perna and Betty Francies provided the House of Hope meal in November. Thank you, ladies!



AARP suggests these 5 ways to boost your immune system. Nothing new but great reminders!

Stay active

Eat healthy

Stay on top of stress

Get enough sleep

Take a multivitamin especially one that includes vitamin D

Merry Christmas!

## Education & Libraries CSP

Co-Chairs: Brenda Gay, Margaret Lee



The book for **Read Across America**, Amy Wu and the Patchwork Dragon, was delivered to Cooper Academy for first graders and the other copy was delivered to the Clayton library.



During the **new member orientation** in November, we shared information about various CSPs and everyone who attended learned a lot about the various CSPs.

### SILENT PARTNER

We would like to remind everyone in our club that our CSP has a **SILENT PARTNER PROGRAM**. This is headed up by CSP member, Belle Allen. By contacting Belle, you can let her know that you are willing to sign up for a one-time donation of \$25 for this school year. You are then placed on a list for emergencies that come up for children in the Clayton schools. This could be for example that a child has lost his or her glasses and needs replacements. Belle goes down our list calling the members that have agreed to be Silent Partners. If the child needs \$100 for glasses, four of our partners will donate \$25 each and you will not be contacted again until next year's sign ups. You would be amazed at how many students we have helped throughout the years. It's one of the many wonderful things our club does and is so appreciated. Belle Allen's contact information is as follows: bellea@aol.com or 919-553-7533.

## Night 'N' Gals

Chair: Robin Sachsenheimer



The **Night 'N' Gals** will meet at the clubhouse on **December 9th at 7pm** and all members are invited to attend. Refreshments will be served.



- Food Sale at Christmas Tree Lighting
- Candyland at Main Street Community Garden
- Pampered Chef Fundraiser
- Meals for House of Hope (2nd Tuesday)
- Bingo at Senior Ctr (2nd Friday)
- Mentoring students at SSS and Clayton High Schools
- Small Town Gala
- Arts Festival
- Silent Partners
- Hospitality



Do you have club member news, personal announcements, family news, personal achievements or recipes to share with club members?

Please submit items by the **25th** of the month to the "Club Chatter" Editor, Sarah Brooks [sbrooks@twccnc.org](mailto:sbrooks@twccnc.org)

## Environment CSP

Co-Chairs: Rachel Masimore, Trish Perna



The Environment CSP will be hosting the **December lunch meeting**. Set up for the meeting will be done December 7th at 10am.

The **trees** Trish Perna will be donating have not yet arrived so no further update at this time.

Volunteers are needed for **Candyland** during the month of December. TWCC members are encouraged to donate your time 2-3 times during the month. Candyland will be staffed Monday-Friday from 2-4pm and Saturday/Sunday from 1-4pm. Contact Rachel Masimore or Trish Perna to let them know dates you can help. Also, go to <https://www.facebook.com/DowntownClayton/photos/a.10158761117018651/10158761089758651> and vote for Main St. Garden as the **People's Choice**. The deadline is December 1.



On October 28-31, Main Street Garden was transformed into the **Stallings Station Undertakers and Cemetery**. There was fun for the entire family! More than 400 children came through the garden. Below are some pictures of the transformed garden. A big thanks to all members who helped make this collaborative event with Main St. Community Garden successful.



## Arts & Culture CSP

Co-Chairs: Angela Williams, Faye Brooks, Dianne Carroll



Welcome new member **Lana Cooper!**

The art supplies for special needs students (pictured at right) at River Dell Elementary were delivered and the students were very appreciative!





For the December meeting, bring:

- Money/checkbook for club dues (Day-\$55 for dues and \$20 for lunch assessment; Night 'N Gals \$55)



**December Menu**

Environment CSP will host and provide the meal

Baked Ham with Gravy

Sweet Potato Casserole

Roasted Vegetables

Cranberry Relish

Biscuits

Red Velvet Dessert

**Civic Engagement & Outreach CSP**

Co-Chairs: Susan Johnson and Susan Quinn



Welcome new members **Dixie Brady and Jeanne Dahl!**

Thanks so much for everyone that donated paper products for **Clayton Area Ministries (CAM)**. Pictured at right is Susan Johnson with a portion of the items donated.



The Civic Engagement and Outreach CSP is encouraging our members to join us in a **Rise Against Hunger** meal packaging experience on Saturday, December 4th from 10:00 to 12:00 at Christ Community UMC, 1082 Amelia Church Road, Clayton. Horne Memorial UMC, Christ Community UMC, and Greater Heights UMC are partnering with other groups in the community to supply Rise Against Hunger meals to be distributed through global partners that administer school feeding programs, orphanages, health clinics, vocational training and through response to crisis. Safety protocols will be in place for this event, including social distancing, masks, and sanitizing. Several have already registered to attend. The website to register is <http://events.riseagainsthunger.org/claytoncollaborative>

**Art Festival** Chair: Susan Johnson



The members of the Art Festival Committee are at work organizing the festival for **February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022** at the Clayton Center. Angela Williams will collect clubwomen entries again this year. The clubwomen categories cover visual arts, crafts, and photography. Be working on your entries for delivery to Angela by the January 12<sup>th</sup> meeting or sooner. Peggy Earp is in charge of clubwomen literature as well as the GFWC-NC state chair for the literature contest. Contact Susan Johnson, Chair of the Art Festival, if you have questions or need a handout.

**TWCC Bunco** Chair: Sarah Brooks



Members played a thrilling game of Bunco on October 26th. Hostesses were Nancy Maynard and Marybeth Bailey. **Lucky winners for the day:** Most Buncos—Marybeth Bailey; Most Wins—Nancy Maynard; Most Losses—Rhonda Nielsen; Most Fakes—Robin Sachsenheimer; Bunco Gift—Sarah Brooks.

Bunco is an extremely easy game of dice that provides members time to come together for an afternoon of fun and frivolity!! All members are welcome to participate—just let Sarah Brooks know if you want to be added to the Bunco list. **WE NEED ONE MORE PLAYER ON NOVEMBER 30TH SO LET SARAH BROOKS KNOW IF YOU WANT TO PLAY!**

Upcoming Bunco dates: **November 30 and December 28.**



One of the TWCC fundraisers this year is the **Jewelry Tree**. Jewelry donated by members will be listed and sold on **Facebook Marketplace** by Margaret Lee and Trish Perna. Some things that sell well are vintage pieces, such as pins, silver (925) rings and bracelets. Contact Trish or Margaret if you have items to sell or bring the items to one of the monthly meetings.



## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

### Annual Dues

Dues are Due by Dec 1

Day members-\$75

Night'n'Gals-\$55

Make checks payable to  
The Woman's Club of  
Clayton and send to:

The Woman's Club of Clayton  
PO Box 26  
Clayton, NC 27528



### NOVEMBER

12/5 Jean Barnes

12/12 Edie Brown

12/14 Cheryl Champion

12/20 Nancy Maynard

12/30 Marie Monsees



Notify Susan Johnson,  
Corresponding Secretary,  
if a card from the club  
needs to be sent to anyone

WOW, I cannot believe it is already December! We had a great book club meeting in November with some **great books** reported on by our members. If space permitted, I would list all the books reported; however, the following is a list of two:



**The Woman in the Window** is a thriller novel by American author A. J. Finn (The book is about an Agoraphobic woman, who lives alone in her New York City apartment and witnesses the murder of her neighbor.) Published on January, 2018. Member, Margaret DiNubila shared the book report with us.

**Nickel and Dimed** by Barbara Ehrenreich (This is written from the author's perspective as an undercover journalist to investigate the impact of the 1996 welfare reform act on the working poor in the United States.) Originally published January, 2001. Member, Betty Francies shared the book report with us.



Our club voted a few years ago that we would do one project each year representing our ESO book club to send in to GFWC-NC (General Federation Woman's Club) who sponsors the ESO Organization. We had planned to make a "Reading Bench" but time did not permit it. Instead, we made **bookmarks** again but different from our sunflower bookmarks last year. Each club member will receive one at our December 8<sup>th</sup> meeting. If you liked the sunflower bookmark, we know you will like this one too!

**Just a reminder, our book club will meet on Monday, December 6<sup>th</sup>.** Our meeting usually starts at 10:00 a.m. but since we will have coffee, juice, etc., 9:30 would be best. We will meet at the club house and we voted in November that we would make it a "festive" meeting as well with members bringing light treats such as fruit, banana nut bread, etc. You may wish to go in together with each other and share one or two things to bring.

Have a great and safe holiday season,

PS. Trivia question: What does a bibliophile have a love for?



### Fundraiser for The Woman's Club of Clayton

Cooking demonstration and lunch for all attendees

Hosted by: Donna Steele

When: Saturday, December 4th, 11:00am

Where: 204 Parkridge Dr, Clayton, NC 27527

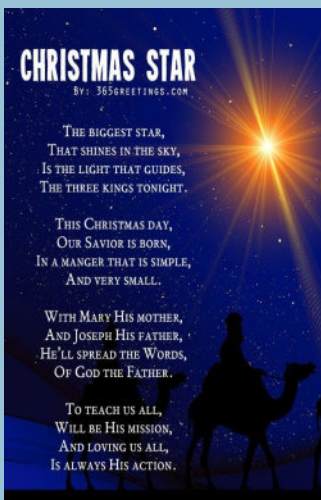
RSVP: 919-333-6361 or email at: [dhsteele249@yahoo.com](mailto:dhsteele249@yahoo.com)



Debbie Ragland's mother, Audrey Norris, passed away November 16th.



Loretta Mascia continues to experience back pain following surgery.



**Congrats to Brenda Gay & Sandy Nesselrode (pictured at left) for winning The Spirit of Christmas award for their Santa Claus tree at the Women in Networking (WIN) Festival of Trees! Other TWCC members, Susan Johnson and Donna Steele, also attended the event and are pictured at right with Brenda Gay and her jolly friend. Brenda and Sandy enjoyed representing TWCC for the WIN fundraiser!**

**The TWCC tree entry sold for \$190! Sandy and Brenda want to thank everyone who helped make the tree possible as follows. The tree, donated by Brenda Gay, included a book of 20 Santa Claus Christmas stamps also donated by Brenda Gay, a \$25 Lowes Foods gift certificate donated by Donna Steele, a coupon for 2 dozen Krispy Kreme donuts donated by Trish Perna, several ornaments donated by Susan Quinn, a Santa tree top donated by Edie Brown, a \$25 Walmart gift certificate donated by Sandy Nesselrode, and a Christmas Poem written by Sandy Nesselrode. Additional copies of the poem were available to attendees. Sandy and Brenda also donated most of the tree ornaments.**

**The tree theme was all about Santa Claus who was a monk named St. Nicholas traced back hundreds of years. There are many legends and stories about him such as he helped the poor and sick. But the best-known one is the time he saved three poor sisters from being sold into slavery or prostitution by their father by providing them with a dowry so they could be married.**

**Great job ladies!!**



**New member orientation** was held on November 16th following the Executive Board meeting. New members attending were Barbara Baracat, Zip Barnard, Dixie Brady, Lynn Roman and Lana Cooper. Participating Board members were Margaret Lee, Brenda Gay, Betsy Grannis, Dianne Carroll, Trish Perna, Nancy Maynard, Marybeth Bailey, Donna Steele, Susan Johnson, Rachel Masimore and Sarah Brooks.

## Recipe Corner—Snack Foods



**Recipe provided by**  
**Nancy Maynard**  
*Makes your kitchen  
smell wonderful!*

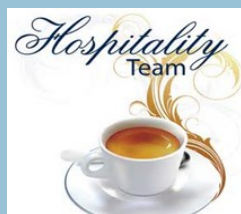


Each month will feature  
recipes by category

January—Cake  
February—Appetizers  
March—Lamb  
April—Italian  
May—Cookies

Send your favorite  
recipes to  
[sbrooks@twccnc.org](mailto:sbrooks@twccnc.org)

**Recipes provided by**  
**Sarah Brooks**



In the event of illness or be-  
reavement, members are  
encouraged to contact  
Marlene Dillon  
if assistance is needed with  
meals, errands, etc.  
Call 315-559-7240  
or email  
[marlenedillon4@icloud.com](mailto:marlenedillon4@icloud.com)

### Caramel Corn

#### Ingredients

12-13 cups of popped popcorn (I use 2-2 1/2 microwave bags)  
1 cup brown sugar  
1 stick of butter  
1/4 cup corn syrup (light or dark will work)  
1/2 tsp salt  
1/2 tsp baking soda

#### Instructions:

- Pop popcorn and put in large bowl or pan (I use my spaghetti pan)
- Mix next 4 ingredients in a medium sauce pan. Heat on medium heat until just boiling.
- Add 1/2 tsp baking soda (it will foam and increase so make sure you use a large enough saucepan)
- Mix well with popcorn. Spread a single layer on a baking sheet (sometimes you need two sheets).
- Bake for ONE HOUR on a 200 degree oven.
- Stir occasionally during that hour.



### Dry Salad

#### Ingredients

1 cup pecans – quartered  
2 cups peanuts (dry roasted unsalted)  
1 box Cheerios  
1 1/2 bags Pretzels (I use butter pretzels; mini pretzels)  
1 box each, Rice Chex, Wheat Chex, Corn Chex  
3 sticks butter  
6 T Worcestershire Sauce  
2 tsp onion salt  
2 tsp celery salt  
2 T garlic salt

#### Instructions:

Clean out kitchen sink and air dry.  
Melt butter. Add Worcestershire sauce, onion, celery and garlic salt.  
Slowly pour mixture over cereals and nuts and mix together with hands.  
Put mixture in large baking pans (Note: Do not use broiler pan)  
Heat in 250 degree oven for 1 hour and 30 minutes being sure to stir every 20 minutes.  
Let cool and store in tin cans.



### Snack Mix

#### Ingredients

1 (16 oz) jar dry roasted peanuts  
1 (15 oz) pkg raisins  
1 (12 oz) pkg butterscotch or peanut morsels  
1 (11.5 oz) pkg white and/or milk chocolate morsels  
1 pkg Christmas M&M's

#### Instructions:

Combine all ingredients in large bowl; stir well. Store in airtight container at room temperature.





# December 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2  CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING Food Sale TWCC Clubhouse	3	4  Meal Packing Event Christ Comm UMC 10am-Noon TWCC Fundraiser Pampered Chef at Donna Steele's 11a
5  Jean Barnes  SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	6  ESO TWCC Clubhouse 9:30am	7  Environment CSP Set Up for lunch mtg Clubhouse 10am  PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DAY	8  TWCC Lunch Meeting TWCC Clubhouse 11:45am	9  Night n Gals TWCC Clubhouse 7pm	10  H&W CSP sponsors Bingo at Senior Center 10am	11  WREATHS across AMERICA EVERYONE PLAYS A PART
12  Edie Brown  THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT	13  Christmas Kids Gift Drop-off TWCC Clubhouse Before 10am	14  Cheryl Champion  BOARD MEETING TWCC Board Mtg TWCC Clubhouse 10am	15  BILL OF RIGHTS DAY	16	17  WRIGHT BROTHERS DAY 12.17	18
19  4 <sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT	20  Nancy Maynard	21  Winter solstice	22	23	24  THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS	25  Merry Christmas
26  HAPPY KWANZAA	27  NATIONAL FRUITCAKE DAY	28  It's Bunco Time! TWCC Bunco TWCC Clubhouse 1pm	29	30  Marie Monsees	31  New Year's Eve	 Happy New Year



## "The Greatest Birth Of All"

*And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night.*



*And the angel said unto them,  
Fear not; for, behold,  
I bring you good tidings of great joy.*



*Where is he that is born  
King of the Jews?  
for we have seen his  
star in the east.*



*... they saw the young child  
with Mary his mother ...they  
presented unto him gifts;  
gold and frankincense,  
and myrrh.*



*For unto you is born this day in the  
city of David a Saviour, which is  
Christ the Lord.*

*Glory to God  
in the highest,  
and on earth peace,  
god will toward men.*



*May you have  
The gladness of Christmas  
which is HOPE,  
The spirit of Christmas  
which is PEACE,  
The heart of Christmas  
which is LOVE.*

*Rejoice  
in the  
True Spirit  
of Christmas!*



*May the blessings of  
His holy birth fill your  
heart with joy and love  
during this Christmas  
season and always.*



## "Happy Birthday Jesus"

Merry Christmas To All

