

In deference to the club's combined meeting with the Trent Woods Garden Club, the general meeting began with a program presented by Lynn Hand and Anne Schout. Ms. Hand is president of the New Bern Preservation Foundation who, as the head of the "Save the Depot," reported on the current status of their efforts. Ms. Schout is the treasurer of the Preservation Foundation. She is also the co-chair of a planned celebration of George Washington's Second Southern Tour, which will take place over three days in the spring, and she outlined some of the events that are planned.

Following the program, President Fannin called the meeting to order at 11:25 a.m. Chaplain Jean Hemphill gave the invocation, followed by the pledges to the flags.

The minutes of the December 4th general meeting have been approved, and a copy is available for review at the Membership table. The minutes have also been posted on our website.

President Fannin thanked Mary Lynne Desmond for her work coordinating today's meeting with the Trent Woods Garden Club.

Liz Maravelas reported a checking account balance of \$1,508.05, money market balance of \$9,869.21, and Wells Fargo account balance of \$6,028.67. She also informed the membership that a thank you note was received from Gail Horne of Guardian Ad Litem expressing appreciation for the Christmas gifts for the children.

Melinda Mantel told the membership that we have two guests today and invited members to introduce their guests.

Marcy Riordan told members of next month's menu. She also reminded members that no reservations or cancellations can be accepted after the closing date of any given month, as that once she has given a count to the country club we are obligated for that lunch.

Paula Lindsay circulated the sign-up sheets for the delivery of Meals on Wheels in February and March.

Liz Maravelas announced the Arts CSP meeting, following the general meeting, will discuss the Arts Festival that will take place January 13th at Garber Methodist Church. Members were invited to stop by and view the student's arts.

June Boyd informed the membership of Education CSP's Citizen of the Year, Susan Moffit-Thomas. Three books were donated to the library in her honor.

Denise Stone told the membership that the speaker at the next Home Life meeting will be from Home Instead Senior Care who will discuss care giver support groups.

President Fannin reported that The Holly & The Ivy ticket sales totaled over \$7,000. She thanked the committee and presented them with a gift.

Melinda Mantel and Betty Knapp, The Holly & The Ivy co-chairs, thanked members for their participation and asked them to e-mail either them with any suggestions or comments they may have about The Holly & The Ivy so that they may be considered at the wrap-up meeting later this month. Sandra Rawlings and Joan Campbell then added their thanks to the members and House Chairs, and presented the latter with a small token of appreciation.

President Fannin reminded members wishing to receive their newsletters via the USPS to send their check for \$10 to Liz Maravelas if they have not already done so. She then discussed the fact that the Ruth Harper Award bowl has no space left for the addition of any more recipients' names. Several suggestions have been made as to alternative solutions. One is to create a plaque that might be displayed somewhere suitable, perhaps in the Country Club. Another would be to eliminate everything and give the recipient something to commemorate her year as Club Woman of the Year. She invited members to give some consideration to this and to contact her with their thoughts.

The District Arts Festival will be held in Beaufort February 21st. Our club will be responsible for a door prize and breakfast items.

President Fannin then said that the various committees and groups will be gathering their year-end report figures for the compilation of the year-end report to GFWC-NC. She will be preparing a State of the Club report, which will be shared with the membership next month.

The membership then rose for the recitation of the Collect, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra Rawlings, Recording Secretary