

MAGNOLIA NEWS

AUGUST 2015 * VOLUME 18, ISSUE 1

vanderbilt.edu/vwc

The Vanderbilt Woman's Club brings together the women of Vanderbilt University; provides an opportunity for intellectual, cultural and social activities within the community and the University; supports and assists the mission of the University; and sponsors the Vanderbilt Woman's Club Stapleton/Weaver Endowed Scholarship through fundraising.

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2015-2016

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President's message



Greetings, Vanderbilt Woman's Club! Well, hold on to your hats, because Sheila has turned over the wheel to me after her wonderful year as president. It is an honor to be your new president, and I'm excited about the year ahead. We have several new events in store for our members this year, such as our August **Kendra Scott** jewelry shopping night and **Music Night at Puckett's Boathouse** in September, as well as many time-honored classics—the Garden Tea, lecture series, luncheons, and of course, **ScholarSips**.

Our board has been working through the summer to plan the year, taking into consideration the many thoughtful and creative suggestions gleaned from our membership survey given in May. Thank you all for taking the time to share your thoughts. Some results from the survey are published on pages two and three. And don't stop with the survey, please! I'd love to hear from you throughout the year—let me know what's working...and what's not. The Club is for all of us, and I hope our activities reflect the rich diversity of interests our members enjoy. So buckle up and come with me on a wonderful ride!

Lisa

(Photo: VWC Community Explorer outing to Marathon Village, January 2015)

Next meeting:
In-Store Fundraiser
August 25 at 6 p.m.
Kendra Scott Jewelry

The Vanderbilt Woman's Club acknowledges the late Margaret Branscomb, wife of Chancellor Harvie Branscomb, for the major plantings of the magnolia trees on campus and honors her in the naming of the newsletter.

VANDERBILT
WOMAN'S CLUB

VWC Membership Survey Results

In May the Board sent our membership an online survey. One hundred and twenty four members responded, or almost 47% of our membership. Not bad. We appreciate the time you took to complete the survey, and we are assiduously studying the results in order to make our Club better for all of us.

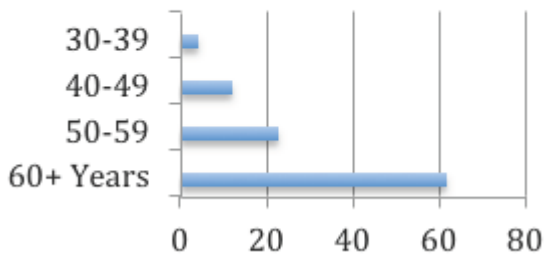
We found that our typical member is the spouse of a Vanderbilt employee, is 60 years of age or older, lives in Nashville, is not currently employed, values most the social aspect of the Club, and is generally very satisfied with the way the Club is running. Our most common entry into the Club is by direct invitation from a member, attending an event. In response to the question, "How welcome did you feel at the first event you attended?" our median score was 95%. Bravo to everyone for being a warm, accepting group!

We also found that 76% of our membership is involved in at least one interest group. Ninety-six percent of our members read the *Magnolia News*, and 94% of those readers think it is "just right" in terms of length and frequency. Fewer members visit our website (46%), and 79% are aware of our philanthropic mission.

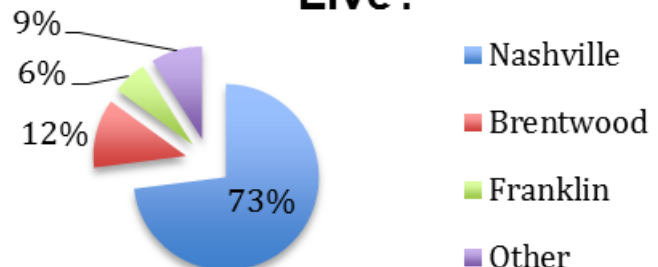
Overall, we received many accolades, a few instances of dissatisfaction, and many helpful suggestions for future events and activities. I'll be talking more about the survey at the opening Garden Tea. For now, here are some visual representations of some of the data we gathered.

Lisa LeMaster

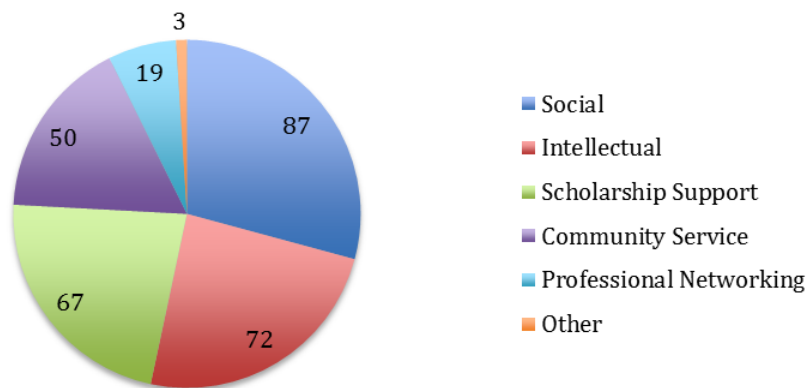
Member Age



Where Do Our Members Live?



Which Purposes of VWC Are Important to You?



Welcome new members

Julie Fay

Patricia Miller

Penny Moore

Julie Waugh

Which Events Did You Attend Last Year?



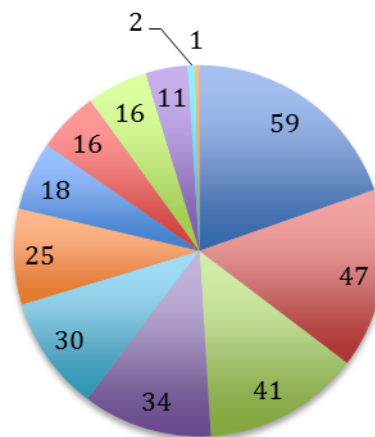
- Opening Garden Tea
- Fall Luncheon
- End-of-Year Luncheon
- Holiday Bazaar
- ScholarSips
- Fall Lecture
- Annual Meeting
- Spring Lecture
- Newcomer Get-together

**Membership
renewal is due for
the 2015/16 year.**

**The form is
available on the
last page of the
newsletter.**

- Community Explorers
- Cocktail Club
- Lunch Bunch
- Movies
- Community Service
- Book Groups
- Bridge Groups
- Gourmet Group
- Mah Jongg
- Parlez-Vous Français?
- Español Por Favor
- Sprechen Sie Deutsch?

Interest Groups



Schedule of Events 2015—2016

Kendra Scott In-Store Shopping Night, 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, August 25, 2015; *4025 Hillsboro Pike, Suite 505*

Get-together for Newcomers, 7-9 p.m. Thursday, September 10, 2015; *Home of Elisabeth & Warren Sandberg*

Opening Garden Tea, 1-3 p.m. Thursday, September 17, 2015; *The Chancellor's Residence*

Music Night at Puckett's Boathouse, 5-8 p.m. Sunday, September 20, 2015; *94 East Main Street, Franklin*

Fall Brunch, 10:30 am–12:30 p.m. Thursday, October 22, 2015; *Scarritt-Bennett Center*

VWC Lecture Series, 10:00 a.m. Thursday, November 12, 2015; *Brentwood Public Library*

Holiday Bazaar and Luncheon, 11:00 a.m. Thursday, December 10, 2015; *Brentwood Country Club*

Annual Meeting, 10:00 a.m. Thursday, January 14, 2016; *Vanderbilt Historic Old Gym*

ScholarSips, 4:30-7:30 p.m. Friday, February 5, 2016; *Vanderbilt Central Library*

VWC Lecture Series, 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, March 15, 2016; *Brentwood Public Library*

End of Year Luncheon, 11:30 a.m. Thursday, April 28, 2016; *Richland Country Club*



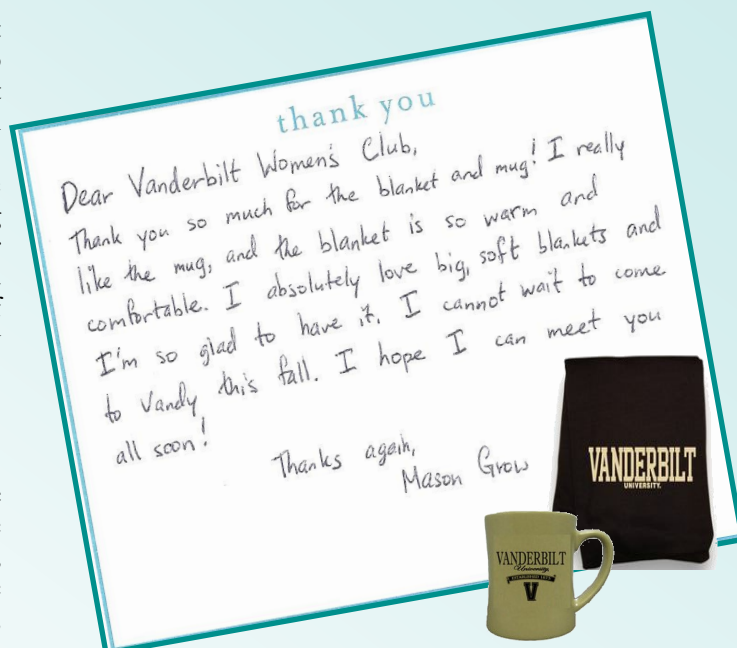
Vanderbilt Woman's Club Stapleton/Weaver Scholarship

The 2015 recipient of our scholarship is **Mason Abigail Grow** of Centennial High School, Franklin, TN.

With twelve Advanced Placement classes in her senior year plus commitments to service learning, it is no surprise that Mason is considered an outstanding scholar in her high school. Ranking in the top 2% of her class at Centennial High School, Mason was named AP scholar with distinction. She also makes time to be an avid volunteer, working on mission trips for the last three consecutive years, mentoring freshmen students through her school's Cougar Crew, and participating in service learning through the Barefoot Republic organization. In her application to Vanderbilt, Mason writes with great passion about her mission trip

to Nicaragua in 2013 and 2014, detailing how difficult it was to leave the children she was helping and how alienated she felt returning to her family and life of luxury. She also details the struggles she felt dealing with guilt for a life she was born into and how dealing with these conflicting emotions allowed her to gain clarity, maturity, and hope for the future. Mason also writes how her younger sister and a little girl she babysits, both of whom have similar forms of sensory disorders, have ignited her passion to study psychology so she can further relate and provide extra help to other children in similar situations.

In addition to a dedication to service, Mason finds time to be a varsity soccer player and captain, co-founder of the Mock Trial club, involved in model UN, the choir, and the Spanish National Honor Society. Mason's English teacher, Susanna Singleton, also notes that Mason has a unique commitment to academics, philanthropy and diversity, possesses the attitude for learning for the sake of learning, and wishes to make a difference to the lives of others. Mason had a perfect ACT score.



A testimonial from Pam King:

After I became the winner of the *Throwing Out the First Pitch and Junior Announcer* auction items at ScholarSips, Sheila McCarty suggested that *Magnolia News* might want pictures of Hiram at the game.

The experience was fabulous at the MTSU game. I send my hearty endorsement of the Baseball program making that donation to ScholarSips again. I'd be happy to help solicit it, if need be. It was all incredible for me, as the purchaser, for the kids, as participants, and for their proud parents!!!!

Before things got underway, a staffer took the posed family photo. Then Hiram (8) got to warm up by throwing and catching with two of the players. Coach Corbin came over and shook hands with all. After the pitch, the family got to stay on the field for the National Anthem, then right before the game started, the two girls (Madelyn – 6 and Chandler – 4) got to shout into the microphone, "Play Ball!!!!" They were thrilled!

Madelyn was scheduled to be the Junior Announcer during the top of the 4th inning, but she decided that was a little overwhelming for her. So they let Hiram be the Junior Announcer and he did an awesome job! Madelyn enjoyed being in the announcer's booth with him. She still got to soak up the action. They even let Jessica come in and see Hiram announcing like a pro!

What a memorable experience for all of us! I am SOOOOO glad I purchased those two auction items! AND little Corbin's (1 year old) autographed, encased National Championship baseball is proudly displayed on a shelf in his room. Special Vanderbilt memories for all four of the kids! ScholarSips was announced as well when Hiram was announced before the pitch.



INTEREST GROUPS

WEEKDAY MEETINGS

| | | | | |
|-----------------------|--|------------------------------|--|--|
| BOOK GROUP TWO | Kathleen Donofrio | 615-383-8732 | kafdonofrio@gmail.com | Meets first Monday from 1:00-2:30 p.m. in the Green Hills Library |
| BRIDGE TUESDAY | Bea McGee | 615-473-7807 | mcgeebea@gmail.com | 2nd and 4th Tuesdays after lunch from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. |
| BRIDGE THURSDAY | Lynne Siesser | 615-298-5659 | lsiesser7@gmail.com | Every Thursday from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. |
| COMMUNITY EXPLORERS | Anne Manner | 615-289-1040 | acmanner@gmail.com | Join us in exploring historic and cultural sites as well as other points of interest in the Nashville area. |
| COMMUNITY SERVICE | Kathleen Donofrio | 615-383-8732 | kafdonofrio@gmail.com | Volunteers meet on selected Wednesday mornings at LP Pencil Box, offering free school supplies for Metro teachers. |
| MAH JONGG | Lin Watson | 615-776-3848 | linrw@comcast.net | Wednesdays 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. |
| MOVIES | Betsy Fleetwood | 615-579-0903 | befleet@aol.com | Join the group monthly on Tuesdays for a movie at Regal Green Hills Cinema and lunch beforehand at a nearby restaurant. Contact Betsy to be on the email list. |
| OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH | Joyce Gore | 615-783-0681 | joycegore0681@gmail.com | Try out local restaurants with congenial company. |
| PARLEZ-VOUS FRANCAIS? | Joan Harshman | 615-292-2260 | joan.s.harshman@att.net | Lunch and conversation with friends. Second Thursday from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. Amerigo's Restaurant, 1920 West End Av. |
| ESPAÑOL POR FAVOR | Lorena Rivera Wilson | 615-517-1064 | lorenaktw@comcast.net | Lunch and conversation with friends at a Green Hills restaurant. |
| SPRECHEN SIE DEUTSCH? | Susanne Riess | 414-241-1246 | susriess@hotmail.com | Meet in homes on a convenient afternoon for coffee and conversation. |
| WEEKEND MEETINGS | | | | |
| BOOK GROUP ONE | Anne Plummer Mary Raffety | 615-297-1858 615-352-7140 | anne.plummer44@gmail.com mraff77777@comcast.net | We meet the second Sunday of the month from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m., except in May when we meet on the first Sunday. We do not meet in Dec, Jan and Aug. |
| COCKTAIL CLUB | Lynne Siesser | 615-298-5659 | lsiesser7@gmail.com | Bring a bottle of wine and your favorite hors d'oeuvres. Meet new friends from other departments. |
| GOURMET GROUP | Carmen Gherman | 615-354-4421 | cggherman@yahoo.com | If you love to cook, join us for fine dining and scintillating conversation. |

Do you have an interest not listed?

Contact **Angela Bowens** 615-776-7164 or 615-973-1020 [c] or aybowens@comcast.net

The perfect niche is here for you — let's find it! Join us for as little or as much as time allows. Work full time? Some groups meet in the evenings. The Vanderbilt Woman's Club welcomes newcomers to the University as well as old-timers.

| | | | | |
|--|--------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|---|
| BOOK GROUP ONE READING LIST | 2015 | Leader | Hostess | Title/Author |
| | September 13 | Joan Harshman | Mary C Bradshaw | <i>The Bully Pulpit</i> /Doris K. Goodwin |
| | October 11 | Mary C Bradshaw | Anne Plummer | <i>The Remedy</i> /Thomas Goetz |
| | November 8 | Anne Plummer | Hope Estopinal | <i>All the Light we Cannot See</i> /Anthony Doerr |
| | 2016 | | | |
| | February 14 | Ann Ercelawn | Ann Ercelawn | <i>Deep Down Dark</i> /Héctor Tobar |
| | March 13 | Sheila Jensen | Joan Campbell | <i>Target Tokyo</i> /James M. Scott |
| | April 10 | Mary Raffety | Tilly Najjar | <i>I Stand Corrected</i> /Eden Collinsworth |
| | May 1 | Becky Attack | Sheila Jensen | <i>Euphoria</i> /Lily King |
| | June 12 | Byrd Helguera | Penny Teselle | <i>Between You & Me</i> /Mary Norris |
| | July 10 | Margaret Norris | Margaret Norris | <i>Boys in the Boat</i> /Daniel James Brown |
| BOOK GROUP TWO READING LIST | 2015 | Hostess/Leader | Author | Title |
| | September 14 | Carmen Gherman | Jon Meacham | <i>American Lion</i> |
| | October 5 | Joy Belton | Elizabeth Warren | <i>A Fighting Chance</i> |
| | November 2 | Nancy Fruetel | Malcomb Gladwell | <i>David and Goliath</i> |
| | December 7 | Mildred Tilley | Leo Tolstoy | <i>The Death of Ivan Ilych</i> |
| | 2016 | | | |
| | January 11 | Nancy Fruetel | | <i>Book Ballot Luncheon</i> |
| | February 1 | Cassandra Estes Estelle Condra | Anthony Doerr | <i>All the Light we Cannot See</i> |

Cocktail Club 2015—2016
Our gracious hosts will be . . .
 August 15—Bengson
 September 26—Born/Hersh
 October
 November 14—LeMaster/Ruhl
 December—Holroyd
 January
 February 5—ScholarSips
 March
 April
 May—Thackston

Lynne Siesser 615-298-5659
 lsiesser7@gmail.com




Gourmet Group

Next event "sold out"

September 19 at the Isaac's

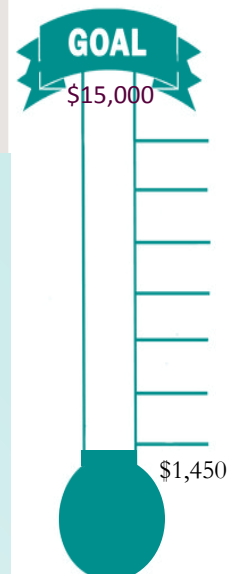
African Safari

Carmen Gherman: 615-354-4421* cggherman@yahoo.com

Donors to the Stapleton/Weaver Endowed Scholarship

2015-2016

since April



Kelly Chambers
Amy Page Christiansen
Katherine Johnson
Shirley Lachs
Lisa LeMaster
Anne Plummer
Lynne Siesser

Thank you!

In memory of

Annabel Higgins
Lynne Siesser

Alethea Lutz
Lisa LeMaster

Karen Sexton
Kelly Chambers

ScholarSips

Amy Page Christiansen * Katherine Johnson
Shirley Lachs

Bridge Extravaganza

Diane Baldwin * Mary Baysinger * Holly Beavers
Judy Burns * Melinda Coles * Cat Covell * Linda Floyd
Bobby Jean Frost * Ann Harwell * Penny Hodgson
Kathleen Hood * Joan Hornberger * Saung Kim
Pam King * Jean Gray Litterer * Beatrice C. McGee
Linda Melnyk * Tilly Najjar * Mary Raffety
Alene Roth * Susan Samson * Lynne Siesser
Vaughn Sinclair * Vivian Starnes * Maclin D. Whiteman
Rosemary Worley

Bridge

Extravaganza
winners

Barbara Bonfiglio
Melinda Coles
Saung Kim
Billie Patton



Cocktail Club regulars, **Julie Travis** and **Joey Moss** were married in May at McConnell House (the Old Jail) in Franklin. We wish them many happy years together.

See you at the movies on
Tuesdays . . .

September 29
October 27
November 17
December 15



Betsy Fleetwood
615-579-0903 befleet@aol.com

Save the Date . . .

Fall Brunch

October 22, 2015 from 10:30-12:30

Raintree Room, Scarritt-Bennett Center,
1008 19th Avenue South.



Reservation information
to follow in the September *Magnolia News*

Vanderbilt Woman's Club

COMMUNITY EXPLORERS

Would you like to know more about the Nashville area and what it has to offer?

If so, the Community Explorers interest group is perfect for you! This group explores historic and cultural sites and other points of interest all around the Nashville area. Here are a few of the trips we took last year, organized by group leader, Anne Manner. I hope you'll join us in 2015-16!

Lisa LeMaster

The Downtown Nashville Art Crawl



Glen Leven Farm & Historical Home



Second Harvest Food Bank of Middle Tennessee



The Jack Daniel's Distillery Lynchburg, Tennessee



The Scarritt-Bennett Center



Bridge Extravaganza

On Saturday, July 18th, VWC bridge players gathered with friends for the first annual *Bridge Extravaganza* at the home of Lynne Siesser. Twenty-four players participated in the event, created and organized by Lynne to raise money for the VWC Stapleton/Weaver endowed scholarship.

Players enjoyed a lovely spread of snacks and drinks throughout the afternoon, and prizes were awarded in each of the playing rooms. Cat Covell donated a bridge hostess set, and several leather-cased card sets were bequeathed by the late Louise Howell, a long-time Thursday Bridge player and loyal VWC member.

Congratulations to room-winners Saung Kim, Barbara Belfiglio, Billie Patton, Melinda Coles, and Vaughn Sinclair.

Each entrant also received a bridge tally pad created by Lynne. Thanks to her efforts and the generosity of the players and many other members who made donations to the event, we earned \$825 for our scholarship fund. Thank you, ladies, and we hope we'll see you again next year for this fun occasion!



Diane Baldwin, Rosemary Worley, Mary Baysinger, Cat Covell
Betty Browning, Tilly Najjar Mary Raffety
Bea McGee



Saung Kim, Lynne Siesser, Barbara Belfiglio, Kathy Hood



Vaughn Sinclair, Ann Harwell, Melinda Coles, Penny Hodgson



Betty Browning, Tilly Najjar, Billie Patton

SEPTEMBER

2015

VANDERBILT WOMAN'S CLUB

Don't miss Music Night at Puckett's Boathouse on Sunday, September 20th!

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|--------|---|
| | | 1 | 2 Mah Jongg 1-3 p.m. | 3 VWC Board Mtg. 9:00 a.m. Bridge 1-4 p.m. | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 Bridge 12:30 – 3:30 p.m. | 9 Mah Jongg 1-3 p.m. | 10 Parlez-Vous Français? 1-2 p.m. Bridge 1-4 p.m. Newcomer Get-together 7 p.m. | 11 | 12 |
| 13 Book Group One 2:30 – 4 p.m. @ Mary Claire Bradshaw's | 14 Book Group Two Green Hills Library 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. | 15 | 16 Mah Jongg 1-3 p.m. | 17 Opening Garden Tea 1-3 p.m. | 18 | 19 Gourmet Group @ the Isaacs' African Safari 6:00 p.m. |
| 20 Music Night @ Puckett's Boathouse 5 – 8 p.m.  | 21 | 22 Bridge 12:30 – 3:30 p.m. | 23 Mah Jongg 1-3 p.m. | 24 Bridge 1-4 p.m. | 25 | 26 Cocktail Club @ the Born's/Hersh's 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 Mah Jongg 1-3 p.m. | | | |



VANDERBILT
WOMAN'S CLUB

&



KENDRA SCOTT

would like to invite you to a special event!

you're invited to a

KENDRA GIVES BACK PARTY

a fun shopping event with 20% of sales benefiting

VANDERBILT WOMAN'S CLUB

enjoy sips & sweets while you shop

AUGUST 25, 2015
6:00 – 8:00 PM



Please join us for an evening of shopping, champagne, and giving.

Merchandise includes the new fall line!

A portion of the proceeds from our purchases at Kendra Scott Jewelry the night of August 25th will go directly to the Vanderbilt Woman's Club Stapleton/Weaver endowed scholarship. Come enjoy some summer fun with your friends from the VWC!

Kendra Scott Nashville – Hill Center

4025 Hillsboro Pike, Suite 505, Nashville, TN 37215

you shop, we give

kendrascott.com

To join or renew, complete the form below and mail with your check to

VANDERBILT WOMAN'S CLUB

Lynne Siesser, 2009 Overhill Drive, Nashville TN 37215-3414

615-298-5659 * lsiesser7@gmail.com

Founded in 1893

The Vanderbilt Woman's Club brings together the women of Vanderbilt University; provides an opportunity for intellectual, cultural and social activities within the community and Vanderbilt; supports and assists the mission of Vanderbilt; and sponsors the Vanderbilt Woman's Club Stapleton/Weaver Scholarship through fundraising.

| | | |
|---|--|-------------------------------------|
| _____ Last Name (Please Print) | _____ First Name | _____ Your University Department |
| _____ Home Address | _____ City | _____ Zip |
| _____ Home Phone/Cell (If included, cell will be listed in the directory) | _____ Husband/Partner's Name & Department () Husband/Partner deceased | |
| _____ E-mail Address | | |

PLEASE CHECK AS MANY AS APPLY:

- () New to Vanderbilt in 2015
() New to Vanderbilt Woman's Club (*but not new to Vanderbilt*)
() New Associate in 2015
() Regular Member of Vanderbilt Woman's Club **\$30.00**
(*Women who are employed or whose husbands/partners are or were (retired/deceased) employed by the University*)
() Associate Member (*Non-voting*) **\$35.00**
(*Women who are not formally associated with the University, but possess an interest in the affairs of the University*)
() Alumna (*Non-voting*) **\$35.00**
() Life Member (*member for 40 consecutive years*) Optional
() Honorary Member Optional
(*The wife of the Chancellor of the University; women who are, or whose spouses/partners are, members of the Vanderbilt Board of Trust; and those women whose services to the University or the Club, by a decision of the Board, deserve special recognition*)

Annual dues should be made payable to **Vanderbilt Woman's Club.**

- () I wish to make a tax-deductible contribution to VWC Scholarship Fund.
(*Make second check payable to **Vanderbilt University** designated for Vanderbilt Woman's Club Scholarship Fund*)

**TO BE LISTED IN THE DIRECTORY, PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS FORM WITH YOUR CHECK BY
OCTOBER 16, 2015**

AFTER THE DEADLINE YOU WILL BE INCLUDED IN FUTURE LISTS AND
RECEIVE FUTURE ISSUES OF THE MAGNOLIA NEWS.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR PICTURE INCLUDED AND IT IS NOT ALREADY IN THE DIRECTORY,
PLEASE SEND IT ELECTRONICALLY OR MAIL A HARD COPY FOR SCANNING.

Interested in? () Book Group 1 * () Book Group 2 * () Tuesday Bridge * () Thursday Bridge
() Cocktail Club * () Community Explorers * () Community Service * () French * () German
() Gourmet Group * () Mah Jongg * () Movies * () Out to Lunch * () Spanish