



Magnolia News

FEBRUARY 2023 * VOLUME 25, ISSUE 5

www.vanderbilt.edu/vwc

Members of the Board

2022-2023

Anna Walker
President

Sharon Hels*
Past President

Yolonda Brooks Robinson
Vice President/Programs

Elisabeth Sandberg
Treasurer

Marie Hindman
Recording Secretary

Elaine Smyth
Corresponding Secretary

TBD
Fundraising

Kelly Chambers*
Communications

Susan Perdue
Hospitality

Joy Allington-Baum*
Interest Groups

Liz Doyle*
Membership

Tracy Stadnick*
Newcomers

*Past Presidents

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings Ladies of VWC,

I have had many great opportunities to hear speakers who inspired and motivated me with their stories and journeys. Such was the occasion to hear our speaker at the annual meeting, **Dr. Aziza Khan**. We were encouraged by her resilience, the ability to find the will and the way, pursue her dreams, and pay it forward. Befitting for celebrating Black History month, I relate this quote to Dr. Khan by Maya Angelou, "You may write me down in history with your bitter, twisted lies, you may tread me in the very dirt, but still, like dust, I'll rise." May we all have the courage to continue to rise and encourage others to do the same.

Thank you again to **Sharon Hels**, **Yolonda Brooks Robinson**, and the office of **Dr. Doug Christiansen** (Vice Provost for University Enrollment Affairs and Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid) for making this possible.

Further, we heard from our third scholarship recipient, **Sophia Pieri**, and introduced a host of new members.

We congratulated our honorary members, **Dr. Aziza Khan** and **Dr. Bridget Gorokhovsky**, and approved our 2022-23 slate of officers: President **Yolonda Brooks Robinson**, Vice-President **Kelly Chambers**, Treasurer **Sharon Hels**, Recording Secretary **Jeanette McNeil**, and Corresponding Secretary **Tracy Bannantine**. I will proudly serve as Past President.

February marks the last month of winter. It actually means to cleanse. How appropriate as we prepare for spring.

This year, we will have our **Stapleton/Weaver Capital Campaign** in March. The theme is "**Giving the VWC Way**". Our goals are at least \$50,000, 100% participation, and a fourth scholarship recipient. As a part of the campaign, you will hear from our board, members, and others who will help tell our story and its importance. We will host a special reception of appreciation for our donors, so, we ask you to prepare to give generously. Our collective efforts make a measurable difference in the lives of our students.

Thank you for your continued support of the of the VWC. We need each other in these times more than ever.

With Gratitude and Love,

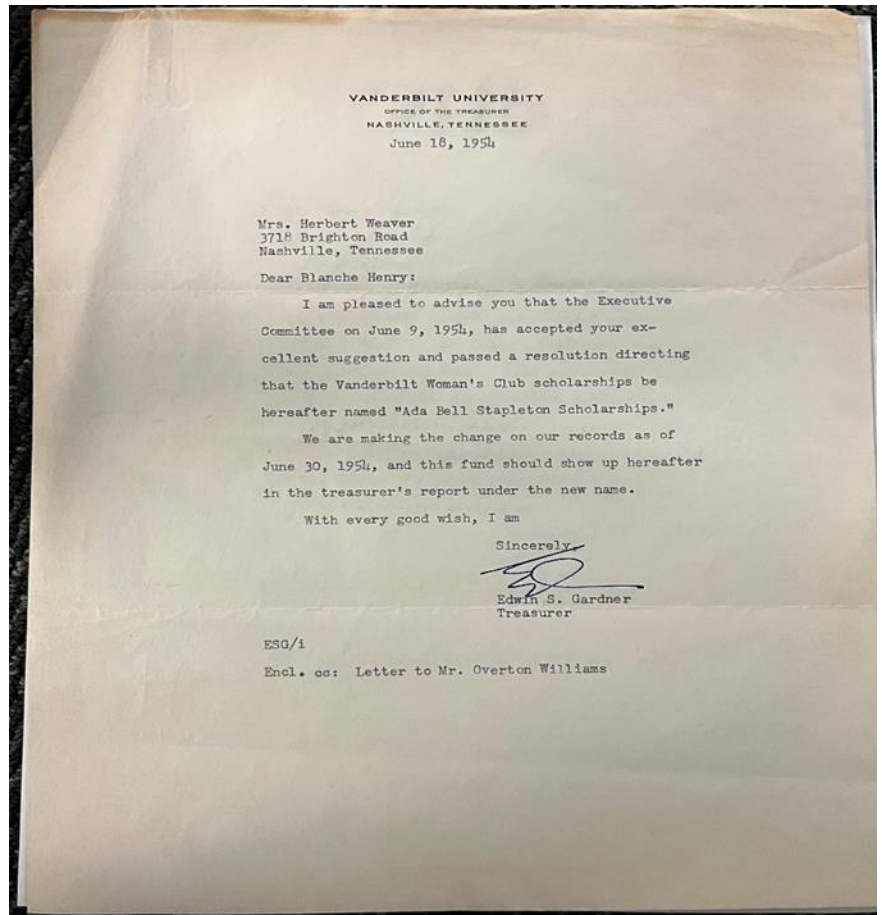
Anna Walker

The mission of the Vanderbilt Woman's Club is to bring together the women of Vanderbilt University; provide an opportunity for intellectual, cultural and social activities within the community and the University; support and assist the mission of the University; and sponsor the Vanderbilt Woman's Club Stapleton/Weaver Endowed Scholarship through fundraising. The late Margaret Branscomb, wife of Chancellor Harvie Branscomb, was responsible for the major plantings of the magnolia trees on campus. The naming of the newsletter honors her.

Did you know?

Vanderbilt Woman's Club has supported students from the club's inception in 1893. In the beginning by giving students loans and now scholarships. Our scholarship fund was officially named in 1954 after Ada Bell Stapleton, Vanderbilt's first official female faculty. She was hired in 1925 to be Professor of Literature and Dean of Women. (See the letter from our archives.) During our centennial year in 1993, Blanche Henry Weaver's name was added to the fund. She was also a Dean of Women, a past VWC President and professor of History at

Vanderbilt. Thus, the Stapleton Weaver scholarship was born. In January 2015 the club voted to award \$5,000 per year for four years giving our recipients \$20,000 over 4 years. Our current goal is to be able to give 4 scholarships and have a recipient in each year. *Joy Allington-Baum*



Member Spotlight

An alumna

Nancy Gentry is a Nashville native, born and raised. She is married to her husband of 55 years, Ken, and she has two grown daughters, but, alas no grandchildren yet - just grand cats. She graduated from Baptist Hospital as a Registered Nurse 55 years ago and then went to Vanderbilt for her BSN. She obtained her MSN at UTK. She has worked in many areas of nursing: staff nursing, administration, education, and quality assurance. For the last few years of her career she worked part time at Vanderbilt, in the Informatics field. Nancy retired four years ago. She loves sports, especially Vandy (ANCHOR DOWN!!!!) and the Titans, reading and travelling. She is so happy to be a member of this wonderful group of women and to be able enjoy all the great opportunities which are available for members! Nancy chaired the Out-to-Lunch Bunch until Joy Allington-Baum took over.



Stapleton/Weaver Scholarship

Donations may be sent to Liz Doyle, 1556 Oxford Court, Gallatin, TN 37066-5717
Checks made out to Vanderbilt University,
with Vanderbilt Woman's Club Scholarship on the memo line.

[click here](#)
[to make](#)
[your donation](#)
[by credit card](#)

Year to date

Becky Atack, Cheryl Baird, Elisabetha Baugh, Mary Baysinger, Audrey Brown, Cathy Brunk, Norma Jean Bueschen, Sarah Calvani, Amy Page Christiansen, Sue Clark, Janet Crowson, Peggy Curci, Katrina Dickerson, Dot Galloway, Kathy Garthwaite, Nancy Gentry, Cathy Griffith, Cherie Hamilton, Becky Hickson, Joan Hornberger, Beth Kelso, Lael Kiesling, Ann Krimm, Anne Manner, Elaine McKenna, Rosann Nunnely, Inka Odom, Susan Perdue, Carol Person, Suzanne Petrey, Sara Plummer, Kitty Porter, Jessica Rickman, Yolonda Brooks Robinson, Robin Sandidge, Kendra Scott LLC, Susan Sharp, Vivian Shields, Sandy Spitz, Tracy Stadnick, Mildred Tilley, Grace Wernke, Faye Wyatt



Emily Song, Class of 2023



Ana Key, Class of 2025



Sophia Pieri, Class of 2026

We sincerely thank everyone who has made a gift to the Stapleton/Weaver Scholarship Endowment.
If your name is missing, contact Lynne Siesser lsiesser7@gmail.com to be added to the list. Information does not always trickle down from Vanderbilt.

New Members Corner

There will be a coffee for **newcomers** on Saturday, February 11 at 10:30 a.m. at Elisabeth Sandberg's home.

We welcome these new members.



- Janet Blane
- Kay Cook
- Bridget Gorokovsky
- Rhonda Keckley
- Aziza Khan
- Mary Ruth Martin
- Fiona Yull

Anna Marra moved to Nashville four months ago. She teaches Italian Language, Literature, and culture at Vanderbilt. Her research investigates the relationship between literature and visual arts, focusing on Medieval and Contemporary poetry. Anna is a filmmaker and a certified meditation teacher. She has a new puppy named Mya.

Do you have a friend who might be interested in enjoying what the VWC has to offer?
THEY MAY SUBMIT THEIR MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION AND PAY THEIR DUES [HERE](#).

New Logo NAMETAG \$10

CONTACT ELIZABETH DOYLE
ELIZABETH.A.DOYLE@GMAIL.COM

To order a nametag

[Click here](#)

Our goal is to have everyone bring their own name tag to events.

Explorers



*Gardening Group at Cheekwood in 2020.
Tracy Stadnick, Sue McDougall, Nancy Gentry, Sharon Hels, Peggy Curci*

Orchid Tour

Cheekwood

**Friday, February 24
at 10 a.m.**

There will be a private tour and talk about orchids from Cheekwood's master gardener. Cost \$21 per person, payable to Tracy Stadnick.

Please RSVP

Tracy.Stadnick@vanderbilt.edu
so she knows who is coming.

Bring your payment when you join her at Cheekwood.

SAVE THE DATE

Wednesday, March 22
at 1 p.m.
private party at the
Serenity Salt Cave
in
Spring Hill

Explore Vanderbilt

Blair Student Concert

The Choral Prism

Friday, February 10th at 8:00pm
in Ingram Hall.

[For more information click here](#)

Please RSVP to Sharon Hels.
We hope to see you there!

Sharon Hels shels53@gmail.com



Cribbage

New day and time

starting February 2

Thursdays at 9:30 a.m.
Grace Wernke 815-222-5986
gcwernke@msn.com

Antiques Study Group

Tuesday, February 21
10:00 a.m.

Peter Ward will share his antique maps and give us a peek at some of their English antiques. Mary-Jane will show us some wonderful examples of her mother's and grandmother's English Cathedral Altar sewing!

For directions and reservations contact

Mary Helen Short

615-269-0538 maryhelenshort111111@gmail.com

SAVE THESE DATES FOR THE ANTIQUE STUDY GROUP

March 21: Show and Tell

April 18: Sue Clark: A tour of her home which has been in the family since the early 1800s.



Out to Lunch Bunch

Thursday, February 23 at 1 p.m.

Nashville Farmers

Market

900 Rosa L Parks
Boulevard



Take your pick from the variety of Food Stations at the Market.

We will meet at the center tables to eat together.

RSVP by February 23rd by text.

Joy Allington-Baum 214-755-5328

Cocktail Club

Share a bottle of wine and your favorite hors d'oeuvres. Bring your spouse, bring a friend or come on your own to meet new friends from other departments.



**Saturday,
February 4**

at the home of

Susie Garner and Mark Sherrill at 6pm

Lynne Siesser 615-856-3980

lsiesser7@gmail.com

March 25- Chambers/Sherwood

April - Tschudy

May - Harris/Cutler

Book Nook

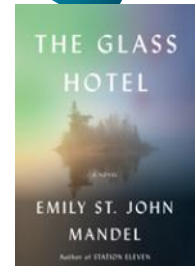
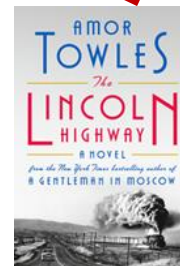
Our groups are reading these books in February.

Book Group One *Horse* by Geraldine Brooks

Book Group Two *The Lincoln Highway* by Amor Towles

Loosely Bound *Our Missing Hearts* by Celeste Ng

BOOKish *The Glass Hotel* by Emily St. John Mandel



Contact information and meeting dates and times are on page seven.

Daytime Movie Group

will meet THIS Monday,



January 30

to see
"Living"

at the
Belcourt Theater.
There is a 2:35 pm
showing.

I look forward to
seeing you there.

The lead actor **Bill Nighy** has been
nominated for an Oscar for his
performance.

Please let Betsy know if you plan to
attend.

Betsy Fleetwood
615-579-0903

"Let's Cook!" and Girls Night Out

What: **A Mardi Gras Party!**

Gumbo, Wine and Hurricanes. \$25.00 - just to
come eat, drink and be merry OR Potluck for
those who cook!

Who: **Everyone!** Its a party. All are invited.
Please come!!

When: **5:00 PM** - Note the time change,
February 21 - Fat Tuesday!!

Where: Susie Garner's house: **101 McArthur Ridge Ct.**
RSVP to Susie (sgarner@bellsouth.net) or Colleen
(colleende@aol.com) by February 12, please :)

SAVE THE DATE:
March 21
Making pasta
from scratch and
more with Chef
Paulette.



Armchair Travel

Friday, February 24 at 7pm
after supper

Lisa LeMaster and JB Ruhl
Venice
at the home of David Condra

Canals, Chianti and Cannoli



Lynne Siesser 615-856-3980
lsiesser7@gmail.com

First meeting of "Lets Cook!"



Tracy Stadnick, Joy Allington-Baum, Colleen Edwards,
Lynne Siesser, Laura Klepper, Susie Garner

Communications *Thank you for keeping us all informed.*

Please send all photos (with names) or items you want to share to Kelly Chambers

kellychambers420@yahoo.com Text: 409-771-5731

The Team

Kelly Chambers - Coordinator

Lisa LeMaster - Website

Lynne Siesser - Magnolia News

Interest Groups

Do you have another interest not listed? Contact

Joy Allington-Baum 214-755-5328
joyallingtonbaum@gmail.com

DAYTIME

ANTIQUES: Mary Helen Short 3rd Tuesday at 10am

615-269-0538 - maryhelenshort11111@gmail.com

BOOK GROUP TWO: Nancy Fruetel 1st Monday 1pm

615-297-5075 - nnfruetel@msn.com

BRIDGE TUESDAY: Lindsay Lawrence 2nd & 4th Tuesday 1pm

720-785-4075 - lindsaylawrencelong@gmail.com

CHOCOLATE! Tracy Stadnick

615-604-4513 - tracy.stadnick@vanderbilt.edu

COMMUNITY EXPLORERS

Tracy Stadnick

615-604-4513 - tracy.stadnick@vanderbilt.edu

Roxanne Roske

323-371-2478 - hrrroske@yahoo.com

COMMUNITY SERVICE: Kelly Chambers 1st Wednesday

9:30am and 2nd Thursdays

409-771-5731 - kellychambers420@yahoo.com

CRIBBAGE: Grace Wernke Thursdays

9:30am 815-222-5986 -

gcwernke@msn.com

EXPLORE VANDERBILT

Tracy Stadnick

615-604-4513 - tracy.stadnick@vanderbilt.edu

Sharon Hels

615-715-3739 - shels53@gmail.com

FRENCH: Maisie Roden 2nd Thursday 1pm

maisie.roden@gmail.com

GARDENING: Peggy Curci and Ursula King

314-369-4119 - peggy@theCurcis.com

LET'S COOK!: Susie Garner and Colleen Edwards

3rd Tuesday - 3pm

615-500-4886 - sgarner@bellsouth.net

407-461-9313 - colleende@aol.com

MAH JONGG: Cindy Slobogin Every Wednesday 1pm

615-292-2214 - slobogin@hotmail.com

TUESDAY MAH JONGG: Lynne Siesser Tuesdays 10am

615-856-3980 - lsiesser7@gmail.com

LEARNING MAH JONGG Mondays 10am

615-856-3980 - lsiesser7@gmail.com

MOVIE GROUP - DAY: Betsy Fleetwood

615-579-0903 - befleet@aol.com

OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH: 4th Thursday 1pm

Joy Allington-Baum - 214-755-5328

joyallingtonbaum@gmail.com

POP-UP GROUP: Kelly Chambers

409-771-5731

kellychambers420@yahoo.com

QUILTING: Lynne Siesser

615-856-3980 - lsiesser7@gmail.com



Look for us as

Vanderbiltwomansclub

or search for **vanderbiltwomansclub**

Pop-Up Group

is a loosely formed group of VWC members with diverse interests and sometimes flexible schedules who want to meet up with other members for fun outside of regularly scheduled club events. Movies, hikes, lectures, theater, festivals, music events, whatever – they are all game for PUG click on <https://groupme.com/en-US/>

Stay Connected



Join our VWC Facebook group to keep up with happenings in the club throughout the year. It's a closed group so only VWC members may post information or see posts. You do need a Facebook account to join.

<https://m.facebook.com/groups/VanderbiltWomansClub/?ref=bookmarks>

EVENING/WEEKEND

ARMCHAIR TRAVEL: Lynne Siesser - 615-856-3980

lsiesser7@gmail.com One Friday per semester 7pm

BOOK GROUP ONE: 3rd Sunday 2:30pm

Becky Atack - 615-406-3711- attackrw@comcast.net

Eileen Crawford - 615-306-1211

eileencrawford5@gmail.com

BOOKish: Debby Stevens 4th Tuesday at 6pm

615-545-4545 - debbyhstevens@gmail.com

COCKTAIL CLUB: Lynne Siesser Saturdays 6pm

615-856-3980 - lsiesser7@gmail.com

GIRLS' NIGHT OUT: Marie Hindman

864-901-7425 - marie.hindman@gmail.com

LOOSELY BOUND (BOOK GROUP): Elisabeth Sandberg

4th Tuesday 7pm text: 617-957-2169

MAH JONGG - EVENING: 2nd Thursday - 6pm

Peggy Curci - 314-369-4119 - peggy@theCurcis.com

MOVIE GROUP - EVENING: Cindy Slobogin

615-292-2214 - slobogin@hotmail.com

POP-UP GROUP: Kelly Chambers

409-771-5731 kellychambers420@yahoo.com

To avoid conflicts check the
Google Calendar. vanderbilt.womansclub@gmail.com



Community Service



Happy Valentine's Day Month,
Our February volunteer opportunities are coming up soon.

1. Pencil, (DG Pencil Box)

Where: 7199 Cockrill Bend Blvd., Nashville, TN. 37209

What: Sorting/organizing school supplies that are then made available to Metro teachers

When: Wednesdays, 9:30-11:30 a.m. (generally the first Wed. of the month at this time.)

Feb. 1 Mar. 1 Apr. 5 May 3

R.S.V.P. to Kelly at kellychambers420@yahoo.com

2. Second Harvest Food Bank of Middle Tennessee

Where: 331 Great Circle Rd., Nashville, TN. 37228

What: Sorting donated food or packing boxes of weekend meals, etc. — Room for 10 volunteers

When: 1:00-3:00 p.m., Thursdays

Feb. 9 Mar. 9 Apr. 13 May 11

R.S.V.P. Second Harvest needs all adults to be registered for this shift before coming in, so please click on this [link](#) to go to our VWC group's landing page to create an account and sign up. (Keep in mind that their system only allows us to see the shifts that are scheduled two months in the future, or sooner.) Please let me know if you plan to go and if you need any help signing up online.

3. **Diaper Drive** benefitting the Nashville Diaper Connection. The club is collecting children's disposable diapers at all club-wide events this year. Diapers also can be dropped off at my home, 1115 Lipscomb Dr., Nashville, TN. 37204.

If you are in an Interest Group perhaps you could publicize the diaper drive there and collect diapers for the club. I can pick them up or you can drop them off at my house.

As always, thank you for your participation and please let me know if you have any questions or suggestions or if you want to be removed from the email list.

Contact Kelly at
kellychambers420@yahoo.com
409-771-5731



OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH enjoying Brunch at Loveless Motel

Sue McDougall, Lynne Siesser,
Sara Plummer, Judy Andrews,
Colleen Edwards, Nancy Gentry,
Joy Allington-Baum, Ursula King, Paddy
Peerman, Elaine Smyth, Robin Sandidge
Photographer - Kelly Chambers

In the News

Bridget Gorokovsky is the program director for the Humphrey Fellows at Peabody. She was at the Annual Meeting to support our speaker, Dr. Khan and sent us this message.

*'Yesterday we talked about the **Humphrey Fellows**, the Fulbright group that brought **Aziza Khan** to Vanderbilt. If you are interested in knowing more of the Fellows, [linked here are their bios](#). I mentioned that we have a teatime when we are on campus from 10:30 to 11:00 in the Peabody Administrative Building room 303. It is a very informal time, but anyone who would like to meet the fellows is welcome. Our teatime dates this semester are on Wednesdays: January 25, February 1, February 8, February 22, and March 22.*

If one of your members really enjoys being part of our international world, you can encourage her to talk with Sarah Crane, the program coordinator, about becoming a Humphrey Fellows Friendship Family". sarah.k.crane@vanderbilt.edu



Bridget Gorokovsky, Anna Walker, Sharon Hels, Aziza Khan at the Annual Meeting

The Quilting Group has delivered another dozen quilts for the Giraffe Pods in the NICU. Thank you Clare Heiberger, Susan McDougall, Lynne Siesser and Peggy Curci's mother for the donations of fabric. Thank you Sallie Diehl and Lynne Siesser for sewing this batch.

If you would like to help with the next batch and need fabric or batting, contact

Lynne Siesser

615-856-3980 lsiesser7@gmail.com



Covid Guidelines

The Vanderbilt Woman's Club follows Vanderbilt University Phase Guidelines for COVID-19. The University continues to follow the guidance issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention based on Davidson's County's [COVID community level](#).

Gathering size limits are lifted for gatherings. Outdoor areas should be used as community gathering spaces whenever possible. Indoor gatherings may occur at the full capacity of a given indoor space, including work, classroom and research spaces.



Susan Winchester, Peggy Curci, Marie Hindman, The Commodore, Robin Sandidge, Judy Andrews, Nancy Gentry, Sharon Hels, Tracy Stadnick, Lina Keeffe, Michelle Tellock

Annual Meeting



*Sujata Bismas,
Michel McDonald*



*Angela Bowens, Fran Vettors,
Eileen Cramford, Ursula King
Ann Ervelawn, Ebbie Redwine*



*Thank you,
Laura*



Dr. Aziza Khan



*Laura McCann
Senior Program
Manager, Office of
Undergraduate
Admissions*

*Yolonda Brooks Robinson, Anna Walker,
Scholar, Sophia Pieri, Class of 2026,
Liz Doyle*

*Nancy Fruetel, Martha Chisolm,
Jeannette McNeil*

February 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	January 30 Movies 2:35pm		1 PENCIL 9:30am Mah Jongg 1pm	2 Cribbage 9:30am	3	4 Cocktails 6pm
5	6 Learning Mah Jongg 10am Book Group Two 1pm	7 Mah Jongg 10am	8 Mah Jongg 1pm	9 Cribbage 9:30am Second Harvest 1pm French 1pm	10 Explore VU 8pm	11 Newcomer Coffee 10:30am
12	13 Learning Mah Jongg 10am	14 Mah Jongg 10am Bridge 1pm	15 Mah Jongg 1pm	16 Cribbage 9:30am	17	18
19 Book Group One 2:30pm	20 Learning Mah Jongg 10am	21 Mah Jongg 10am Antiques 10am Let's Cook! & Girls Night Out 5pm	22 Mah Jongg 1pm	23 Cribbage 9:30am Out to Lunch 1pm	24 Explorers 10am Armchair Travel 7pm	25
26	27 Learning Mah Jongg 10am	28 Mah Jongg 10am Bridge 1pm BOOKISH 6pm				



SAVE THE DATES
 Tuesday, March 21 "LET'S COOK!"
 Wednesday, March 22 EXPLORERS

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY