



Magnolia News

JANUARY 2023 * VOLUME 25, ISSUE 4

www.vanderbilt.edu/vwc

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Ladies of VWC,

Happy 2023! A season of grace and expectation for new beginnings. What a rewarding year we have had! I am thankful for our great board, committee chairs and members. I appreciate those of you who attended our club-wide events in record numbers, increasingly supported our Interest Groups, were present at our service opportunities with our partners, and gave generously to our Stapleton/Weaver Scholarship Fund. **We welcomed 24 new members**, added two new Interest Groups (with two more in the Spring), and welcomed our newest scholarship recipient, **Sophia Pieri**. This Is Us!

With excitement, we will embark upon our tridecaCentennial (130th) year club anniversary and Silver Jubilee (25th) year of our Magnolia Newsletter. We are planning various events to honor our culture, reimagine the future, and tell our story. Stay tuned!

Our annual meeting will be held on **Tuesday, January 24th** in the Historic Old Gym with **Dr. Aziza Khan**, Hubert Humphrey Fellow and Vanderbilt Cohort. Please RSVP by January 16th and include your lunch preference. We will also offer attendance by ZOOM-link to follow. At the meeting, we will vote on the nominees for next year's Executive Board. Thanks to our nominating committee for working so expeditiously and diligently.

Our nominees are:

President	Yolonda Brooks Robinson
Vice President	Kelly Chambers
Recording Secretary	Jeannette McNeil
Corresponding Secretary	Tracy Bannantine
Treasurer	Sharon Hels

Wishing you health, prosperity, and new blessings in 2023,

Anna Walker

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

UPCOMING EVENTS — details on page two.

Annual Business Meeting: **Tuesday, January 24th in the Old Gym at 10 a.m.**

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.

Join the
Vanderbilt Woman's Club

for our
2023 Annual Meeting

Guest speaker

Dr. Aziza Khan

of Pakistan

will discuss her role as educationist and
women's education advocate
and Hubert H. Humphrey Fellow
Vanderbilt Cohort 2022-2023

January 24, 2023

10:00 a.m.

Vanderbilt University Campus, Historic Old Gym*
(*Hybrid option - Zoom link available upon request)

RSVP by January 16, 2023 to

ybrooksrobinson@gmail.com

and include your lunch option preference:

Option 1: Roasted Turkey and Cheddar Sandwich

Option 2: Roasted Vegetable Wrap

Option 3: Strawberry Spinach Salad (with Red
Onion) and Herb Grilled Chicken

VALET PARKING

We want your *Feedback*



Please let us know your thoughts about our events this year to help us make improvements for next year. Click on the link below to complete a brief survey. Thanks!



SURVEY

[Click here to take the survey](#)

Did you know?

Our musical history



On January 30, 1925 the world-famous **Mme. Margret Matzenauer** of Metropolitan Opera sang and the VWC ladies attended.

<https://youtu.be/RAYorx9cQyM>

In 2005, **Brenda Lee** attended and sang at our Holiday Luncheon.

https://youtu.be/4vn_l0-3WOk



Liz Doyle and Marianne Huffman greet Brenda Lee

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](#)

Donations since the last newsletter

Becky Atack, Cheryl Baird Cathy Brunk, Norma Jean Bueschen, Amy Page Christiansen, Sue Clark, Peggy Curci, Nancy Gentry, Becky Hickson, Beth Kelso, Lael Kiesling, Ann Krimm, Anne Manner, Elaine McKenna, Rosann Nunnely, Inka Odom, Suzanne Petrey, Kitty Porter, Jessica Rickman, Yolonda Brooks Robinson, Robin Sandidge, Kendra Scott LLC, Susan Sharp, Vivian Shields, Tracy Stadnick, Mildred Tilley, Grace Wernke,

Year to date

Elisabetha Baugh, Mary Baysinger, Audrey Brown, Sarah Calvani, Janet Crowson, Katrina Dickerson, Dot Galloway, Kathy Garthwaite, Cathy Griffith, Cherie Hamilton, Joan Hornberger, Susan Perdue, Carol Person, Sara Plummer, Sandy Spitz, 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

We have welcomed 24 new members since January, 2022.

In Memoriam
Judy Auer

Kelley Anderson

retired owner of an Executive Search firm. Ann has enjoyed playing Mah Jongg since 2003.



Lindsey Curtis
Jennifer Murray
Debbie West

Ann Bond

and her husband, Robert, moved back from southwest Florida to the Nashville area 3 months ago to be closer to her son and his family. Ann is a graduate of Auburn University with a BA Degree in Psychology. She is the

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 **\$10**
NAMETAG

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

To order a nametag use this link:
<https://vanderbilt.alumniq.com/index.cfm/events/register/home/eventId/4277>

Member Spotlight

The late Margaret Branscomb (Mrs. Harvie)
(1896-1992)



Mrs. Branscomb and the Chancellor at the dedication of the sculpture in 1985.

There is a sculpture of Margaret Branscomb by Alan LeQuire near Kirkland Hall.

As President of the Vanderbilt Garden Club from 1952 to 1954 Margaret Branscomb got the idea to beautify Vanderbilt by planting magnolia trees around the perimeter of campus. Throughout the 1950's and 60's Margaret Branscomb oversaw the planting of magnolia trees all across and on the edges of campus to add beauty and greenery alongside the budding buildings. She not only added new magnolias, but also replanted many already on campus in order to save them from being cut down during construction.



Three Chancellor wives: Faye Wyatt, Margaret Branscomb, Jean Heard

Speaking of her reasoning for planting the trees Margaret Branscomb said: " I thought of the noise and dust a thick row of magnolias would lessen, to say nothing of the campus being so open to the public view". Today a bronze statue of Margaret Branscomb sits happily with a book below one of the beautiful magnolia trees she loved so much, just as the real Margaret Branscomb likely did throughout her time at Vanderbilt.

from Real Dirt by Sharon Hogge

As the wife of the Chancellor, her special interest was newcomers. She organized the Newcomers Club in 1947. It remained active until 1991.

Born Margaret Vaughan, she was the daughter of a lawyer from Greenville, Texas, and the niece of a Vanderbilt alumna. She is interred along with her husband in the Benton Chapel on the Vanderbilt Campus.



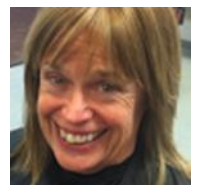
Cat Covell, Rosemary Worley, Mary Baysinger,

Betty Browning, Tilly Najjar, Billie Patton, Mary Raffety

Bea McGee,
2015

Tuesday Bridge

announces a new chair.



Lindsay Lawrence

720-785-4075

lindsaylawrencelong@gmail.com

Thank you, Lindsay for jumping in and taking the lead so ably.

The group meets on the second and fourth Tuesday at 1pm. All levels of play are welcome. Let Lindsay know if you would like to be on her email list.

Girls Night Out

Join the GNO group for Taco Tuesday at **OTTO**
in West Nashville

on **Tuesday, January 17th** at 5 pm.

Otto's Bar serves craft cocktails and small bites in an intimate atmosphere. Specials that night are \$2.00 tacos, with vegan and vegetarian options, and \$6.00 margaritas.

OTTO's is located at
4210 Charlotte Avenue Nashville, TN 37209.



RSVP to Marie at marie.hindman@gmail.com.

Out to Lunch Bunch

Thursday,
January 26 at
10:00 am
Brunch at
Loveless Cafe
8400 Highway 100
Nashville, TN
37221



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

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, January 14
at the
King/Middletons at 6pm
Lynne Siesser 615-856-3980
lsiesser7@gmail.com

February - Garner
March - Chambers/Sherwood
April - Tschudy
May - Harris/Cutler



Book Group 2

is having their nomination
luncheon on January 9th.

Nancy Fruetel
615-297-5075
nnfruetel@msn.com

*Roberta Maguire, Ellie Rath, Mildred Tilley,
Kathleen Donofrio, Jane Stumpf, Cassandra
Estes, Laurie Todd, Becky Hickson, Carmen
Gberman, Jane Hinshaw, Dede Clements, Joy
Belton, Nancy Fruetel, Marlene Corlew*

Lunching and choosing books
for the next year.



Ring in the New . . .

“Let’s Cook!” This **new** group will be an eclectic combination of potluck parties, hands-on cooking classes, food and wine pairings and more.

Who: Everyone. No skill level is required to participate.

When: First Event **January 17th at 3:00 p.m.**

Soup swap (similar to a cookie swap, but with soup.) Participants will be asked to bring 1 soup (stews and chilis are welcome) We’ll sample the soups and share all of the recipes.

Where: Susie Garner’s house at 101 McArthur Ridge Ct. Nashville, 37220 at 3:00 p.m. A bottle of wine is ALWAYS a good thing, feel free to bring one.

Save the Date : **February 21st**

Our second meeting happens to be Fat Tuesday, so we’ll be having a Mardi Gras party. Details to come. *Laissez les bons temps rouler.* We’ll be meeting on the 3rd Tuesday of each month targeting 3:00 p.m.

The time may change depending on the circumstances so always check the time if you’re interested!!



Please email **Susie Garner** at sgarner@bellsouth.net or **615-500-4886** or **Colleen Edwards** at colleende@aol.com or **407-461-9313** to join or ask questions.

BOOKish

New*

Hello Readers! This new year, “make new friends but keep the old...” by joining BOOKish. We’re a new book club focusing on contemporary books ranging from long listed titles & award winners to reader favorites & indie sleepers.

Meetings are held the **fourth Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m.**

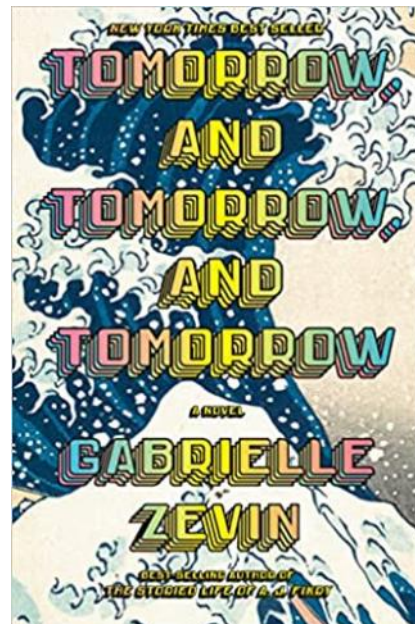
The **January 24th** meeting will be at **Green Hills Grille** discussing

Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Tomorrow by Gabrielle Zevin

Debby Stevens:

debbyhstevens@gmail.com 615 -545-4545

Note: Loosely Bound also meets on the fourth Tuesday but has reached capacity. BOOKish will accommodate additional avid readers in another evening group.



Watch this space for more exciting interest groups to start in the Spring.

Ideas for other new groups?

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

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 - hrroske@yahoo.com

COMMUNITY SERVICE: Kelly Chambers 1st Wednesday

9:30am 409-771-5731 - kellychambers420@yahoo.com

CRIBBAGE: Grace Wernke Wednesdays 10am

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



Look for us as

vanderbiltwomensclub

or search for **vanderbiltwomensclub**

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/VanderbiltWomensClub/?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



For details and dates check the Google Calendar.
vanderbilt.womensclub@gmail.com

Community Service

IN PERSON OPPORTUNITIES

PENCIL continues on the first Wednesday, 9:30am—11:30am.
Jan. 4, Feb. 1, Mar. 1, April 5, May 3



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—3 p.m., Thursdays, Jan. 12, Feb. 9, March 9, April 13, May 11

R.S.V.P. Second Harvest needs all adults to be registered for the 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.

Please let Kelly know if you need any help signing up online. **409-771-5731**

Other volunteer opportunities will be announced as they become available. Questions?

Contact Kelly at

kellychambers420@yahoo.com

Diaper Drive

VWC board has chosen the **Nashville Diaper Connection** as the recipient of our community support this year. We will collect diapers from interested members at all club-wide events during the remainder of the academic year.

Our next VWC Diaper Drive collection will be at the Annual Meeting in January. If you'd like to participate, please bring disposable diapers to the drop-off bin at the front door. Diapers also can be dropped off at Kelly Chambers's house anytime.



Without diapers babies cannot go to childcare or participate in early childhood education. Without much needed childcare many parents cannot go to work or school. The Nashville Diaper Connection wants to ensure that every baby in Nashville has enough diapers to remain clean, dry, and healthy. For more details about the Diaper Connection check out their website:

<https://www.nashvillediaperconnection.org/about/what-we-do>

Thank you in advance for the club's always generous support. Contact Kelly Chambers with questions.

409-771-5731, kellychambers420@yahoo.com

So far, we have collected 1,412 diapers.

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.

Interest Groups celebrate the holidays

Cribbage meets Wednesdays at 10 a.m.
 Grace Wernke 815-222-5986
 gcwernke@msn.com

French meets second Thursday at 12:30 p.m.
 Maisie Roden
 maisie.roden@gmail.com



Diane Whalley, Grace Wernke, Lynne Siesser, Ebbie Redwine, Sallie Diehl at the Wernkes



Maisie Roden, Anne Plummer, Meredith Oates, Joan Harshman, Penny TeSelle, Judith Hodges at Richland

Mah Jongg meets Wednesdays at 1 p.m.
 Cindy Slobogin 615-292-2214 slobogin@hotmail.com



Chris Browning, Norma Jean Bueschen, Debby Stevens, Tracy Bannantine, Frannie Benner, Rosann Nunnelly, Jeannette McNeil, Peggy Curci, Diane Whalley, Cindy Slobogin, Ann Bond



Coco McGinley and her daughters, Yasi Bertram and Annie Schaefer

R.I.P. Bicentennial Oak. On November 12, 2022 this beloved campus landmark near Garland Hall toppled. Estimated to be 250 years old, the bur oak died from root decay. An unsuspecting group of **VU Explorers** were among the last to see the tree standing as they were led on a campus tree tour by **Dr. Steve Baskauf** on November 11. Timing is everything! **Sharon Hels**

WVC celebrates

Holiday Lunch

Book Group 2 meets first Monday at 1 p.m.

Nancy Fruetel 615-297-5075 nnfruetel@msn.com

Christmas Crowns Joy Allington-Baum, Jeannette McNeil, Ronnie Steinberg
Carmen Gherman, Mildred Tilley



Inka Odom, Frannie Benner

Kelly Chambers, Elaine Smyth, Yolonda Robinson,
Marie Hindman, Susan Perdue, Anna Walker,
Joy Allington-Baum, Liz Doyle, Elisabeth Sandberg

The Board at the Tea
at Thistle Farms



Marie Hindman
and Vendor

Colleen Edwards, Susan Winchester, Joyce Gore,
Norma Jean Bueschen, Holly Beavers

and
Bazaar



Sujata Biswas, Tracy Stadnick, Liz Doyle

Dot Galloway,
Coco McGinley,

Peggy Curci

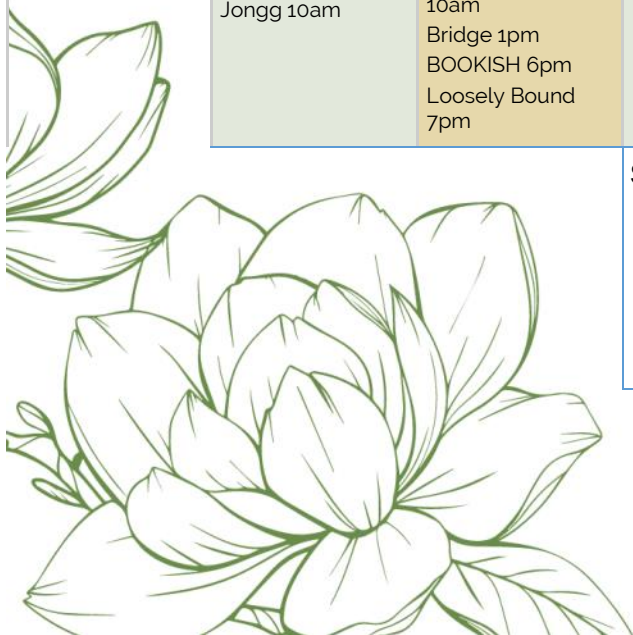
Nancy Gentry,

Robin Sandidge



HELLO January 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Learning Mah Jongg 10am	3 Mah Jongg 10am	4 PENCIL 9:30am Cribbage 10am Mah Jongg 1pm	5	6	7
8	9 Learning Mah Jongg 10am Book Group Two 1pm	10 Mah Jongg 10am Bridge 1pm	11 Cribbage 10am Mah Jongg 1pm	12 Second Harvest 1pm French 1pm Evening Mah Jongg 6pm	13 ZOO Lights 7pm	14 Cocktails 6pm
15 Book Group One 2:30pm	16 Learning Mah Jongg 10am DEADLINE For reserving Lunch at the Business Meeting	17 Mah Jongg 10am Antiques 10am Let's Cook! 3pm GNO 5pm	18 Cribbage 10am Mah Jongg 1pm	19	20	21
22	23 Learning Mah Jongg 10am	24 Business Meeting 10am Bridge 1pm BOOKISH 6pm Loosely Bound 7pm	25 Cribbage 10am Mah Jongg 1pm	26 Out to Lunch 10am	27	28
			Sunday 29	Monday 30 Learning Mah Jongg 10am	Tuesday 31 Mah Jongg 10am VU Explorers 8pm	



RSVP DEADLINE for lunch choices
January 16
Business Meeting on January 24