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

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
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.

[Link to YouTube video]

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

[Link to YouTube video]

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.

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, Liel Kiesling, Ann Krimm, Anne Manner, Elaine McKenna, Rosann Nunnelly, 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

New Members Corner
We have welcomed 24 new members since January, 2022.

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

Lindsey Curtis
Jennifer Murray
Debbie West

In Memoriam
Judy Auer

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.

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)

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.

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.

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.

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.
Explorers

Rescheduled from December:
Zoo Lights, on Friday, January 13th
from 7:00 - 8:30 PM.
Please purchase your own ticket
on the zoo lights website.
https://www.nashvillezoo.org/zoolumination
RSVP Tracy.Stadnick@Vanderbilt.edu
to let her know you are coming.

Antiques Study Group
Antiques Road Show
10:00 a.m., January 17, at the lovely home of Antiques Appraiser,
Robin Sinclair, PhD,
Sinclair Appraisals and Consulting
Please bring a small item for Robin to assess!
Dr. Sinclair has been collecting, studying, appraising and selling antiques since childhood. She gives seminars in antique silver and has aided a house-museum in assessing its decorative arts collection, and another museum in its important edged weapons and guns collection. The author of a seminar on collecting and evaluating antique silver, she has also written for The Association of Collectors of Small Silver.
The venue will be limited - please reserve your space with
Mary Helen Short
615-269-0538
maryhelenshort11111@gmail.com
Personal note: Robin appraised my cousin’s Rococo Revival bedroom furniture—the depth into which she researched the pieces, and her appraisal, were amazing!

SAVE THESE DATES FOR THE ANTIQUE STUDY GROUP
February 21:
Peter & Mary-Jane Ward:
Antique maps and family heirlooms.
March 21: Show and Tell
April 18: Sue Clark: A tour of her home which has been in the family since the early 1800s.

Explore Vanderbilt
Great Voices at the Vanderbilt Blair School of Music
Amy Jarman, Soprano, and Jennifer McGuire, Piano:
“The Gift of Song: Settings of the Poems of Mark Jarman”
Celebrated soprano and Blair voice teacher Amy Jarman performs songs based on the poems of her husband, award-winning poet and Vanderbilt Centennial Professor of English, Emeritus, Mark Jarman, set to music composed by Blair colleagues Michael A. Rose and Stan B. Link, Blair alum Evan Mack, and British composer Philip Wilby.
Tuesday, January 31
at 8pm
at Turner Hall
(in the Blair School of Music building).
Free admission; RSVP to Tracy Stadnick or Sharon Hels
Tracy Stadnick tracy.stadnick@vanderbilt.edu
Sharon Hels shels53@gmail.com
events.vanderbilt.edu/blair/event/50151-amy-jarman-soprano-and-jennifer-mcguire-piano

Book Group 2016
NOTE CHANGE OF DATE
Book Group 1
is changing their meeting time in 2023 to the third Sunday of each month from 2:30 to 4:00 P.M.
Our January 15 meeting will be held remotely on Zoom.
There is no single title, but a discussion of book and author recommendations to share among the participants. In February, in person meetings will resume at locations to be announced.
Becky Atack 615-406-3711
atackrw@comcast.net
Eileen Crawford 615-306-1211
eileencrawford5@gmail.com

Margaret Norris, Mary Raffety, Penny TeSelle, Mary Claire Bradshaw, Becky Atack, Byrd Helguera, Eileen Crawford, Anne Plummer, Sheila Jensen
**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.

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**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

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**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

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**Book Group 2**

is having their nomination luncheon on **January 9th**.

Nancy Fruetel

615-297-5075

nnfruetel@msn.com

Roberta Maguire, Ellie Raths, Mildred Tiley, Kathleen Donofrio, Jane Stumpf, Cassandra Estes, Laurie Todd, Becky Hickson, Carmen Gherman, Jane Hinchaw, Dede Clements, Joy Belton, Nancy Fruetel, Marlene Corlew

Lunching and choosing books for the next year.

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JANUARY, 2015
**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.

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**BOOKish**

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.

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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
ekellychambers420@yahoo.com  Text: 409-771-5731

The Team
Kelly Chambers - Coordinator
Lisa LeMaster - Website
Lynne Siesser - Magnolia News

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.

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.

For details and dates check the Google Calendar.
vanderbilt.womansclub@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

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

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

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 Carri, Diane Whalley, Cindy Slobogin, Ann Bond

**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

Coco McGinty and her daughters, Yazi Berthum and Annie Schafer
VWC celebrates

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 Tiley

Joy Allington-Baum, Jeannette McNeil, Ronnie Steinberg
Carmen Gherman, Mildred Tiley

The Board at the Tea at Thistle Farms
Kelly Chambers, Elaine Smyth, Yolanda Robinson,
Marie Hindman, Susan Perdue, Anna Walker,
Joy Allington-Baum, Liz Doyle, Elisabeth Sandberg

Holiday Lunch

Inka Odom, Frannie Benner

Inka Odom, Frannie Benner

and Vendor

Marie Hindman and Vendor

and Bazaar

Sujata Biswas, Tracy Stadnick, Liz Doyle

Sujata Biswas, Tracy Stadnick, Liz Doyle

Darl Galloway, Coco McGinley,
Peggy Curci

Darl Galloway, Coco McGinley,
Peggy Curci

Nancy Gentry, Robyn Sandridge

Nancy Gentry, Robyn Sandridge

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

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Norma Jean Bueschen, Holly Beavers

Marie Hindman,

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**RSVP DEADLINE for lunch choices**

*January 16*

*Business Meeting on January 24*