



OWC NEWSLETTER

December 2023



Oriental Woman's Club
PO Box 515, 1007 Gilgo Road, Oriental, NC 28571
www.orientalwomansclub.org

Serving Pamlico County Since 1916
OWC Vision: Women Together Making a Difference
2023 Focus: Education & Community Commitment

2023 Officers

Co-Presidents Julie Wiegand & Ellen Blackmon
Vice President Olga Herman
Co-Secretaries Sharon Morgan & Jody Riddle
Treasurer Deborah Powers

Newsletter Editor: Jean Chastang
Club email: owcncinfo@gmail.com

December General Meeting – 12/5/23

December Christmas Potluck Luncheon

December 5, 11:30 am – OWC Clubhouse
Installation of 2024 Officers
President: Ellen Blackmon
Vice President: Olga Herman
Secretary EC: Jody Riddle
Secretary GM: Elizabeth Buckman
Treasurer: TBD

2024 Dues of \$60, payable to OWC, are due to Jean Chastang by the end of January.



Garden Club decorated tree at Town Hall

Message from Ellen/Julie

We want to wish all our members a very joyous holiday season. Old traditions are continued and new ones are always evolving. We are of a generation where many families lived closely and celebrated the holidays with our grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, the list goes on. Now, some of us find that we are grandparents, aunts and uncles and cousins. Distances might have gotten farther but the love and storytelling continue. For those who are far away from family this year, think about creating your chosen family, new neighbors, single folks, young families that need the warmth of a loving family that we can share.

We will have an installation of officers conducted by Carol Herman at our potluck Education luncheon held on Tuesday December 5th at 11:30. There will be a donation jar set out for contributions to our scholarship fund.



OWC Calendar

Monthly Meetings at the Clubhouse:

Yoga – Mon & Wed, 8:30 am

Arts Program meets third Thursday at 10:30 AM

Education Program meets third Thursday at 10:30 AM

Home Life Program meetings as scheduled in advance

Garden Club meets third Tuesday at 10:30 AM

LON meets as scheduled

Dec 5 Christmas Potluck Luncheon, Installation of 2024 Officers, 11:30 am

Dec 13 Garden Club Holiday Luncheon @ Chelsea in New Bern, 11:30 am

Dec 19 EC Mtg. 1:30 am Joint 2023 & 2024 mbrs.

Jan 2 General Mtg. 1 pm

Arts & Education (Carol Young & Maryellen Bickel):

The Holiday Luncheon is scheduled for Dec 5th at 11:30. We will be setting up on Monday, Dec 4th at 10:30. Please plan on making a donation to the Scholarship Fund. You can also bring your donations for the School Clothes Closets. We are gearing up for the Art Festival at the end of January and will have sign-up sheets at the luncheon. Please plan on helping as this is a Community Event.

Garden Club (Joyce DiPasquale & Sharon Gilbert):

We had a successful work shop making ornaments for the Town Hall and the Post Office Christmas trees. To those members that were unable to attend the workshop, you were missed. Lee said "We all wanted to "adopt" our creations, but reluctantly gave them up for the greater good." You can visit them. They will be hanging out at Town Hall and the Post Office. A big thank you to Lee Duer for providing us with the supplies and her talent. We had a successful roadside clean-up on November 29th in preparation for the Spirit of Christmas Celebration, Dec 7-9.



Road clean-up crew: Joyce, Sally & Priscilla

Fine Arts & Crafts Festival pictures from Saturday, November 4. A great event bringing in \$605 on the bake sale and cookies by the pound plus vendor fees of \$545.





Let's Read: Reading suggestion by Carol McAdoo:
The Island of Sea Women Lisa See

Set on the Korean Island of JeJu the novel follows two girls from very different backgrounds as they begin working in the sea with their village's all-female diving collective. The women are known as "haenyeo. After hundreds of dives and years of friendship, forces outside their control push their friendship to the breaking point. The novel illuminates a unique and unforgettable culture, one where the women are in charge, engaging in dangerous physical work and the men take care of the children. The story of women's friendship and the larger forces that shape them is classic Lisa See. Spanning generations the novel is a beautiful story of two women whose individual choices become tangled.



Oriental's History Museum, Lucille Styron Truitt Artwork, September 16 through January is a special Fall Exhibit will showcase the museum's large collection of Lucille's artwork. Did you know she is self-taught and started painting back in the 60's? For over forty years she painted landscapes, fishing vessels, harbor scenes, and fishermen at work. Several of her pieces will also be for sale for the duration of the exhibit.

The second weekend in December is when Oriental celebrates **Spirit of Christmas, December 8-9**. Luminaria line the streets of Oriental. Businesses host open houses to say thank you to the community. There's a live Nativity, several choirs performing Christmas favorites, a lighted (engineless) flotilla in the harbor, the lighting of the Star at town dock #1, a parade (2023 theme Christmas Around the World) along the main streets, the lighting of the Tree of Names and Lights in Lou Mac Park and the *Light Up Oriental* decorating contest for residents and businesses.

Lights, garlands, and a few moving parts. **Oriental's decorating contest for the Spirit of Christmas runs throughout December**, but is judged Monday, Dec 4 – Wednesday, Dec 6. There are four residential categories this year: Most Traditional, Most Whimsical, Most Nautical, Most Lights.

Businesses compete for the Most Decorated Business and winners are announced Thursday, December 7 at the lighting of the **Tree of Names & Lights** in Lou Mac Park at 5 pm. It remains up until New Year's Day. For a \$5 donation, one candle ornament with the name of your loved one is handmade and placed on the Tree of Names and Lights in Lou Mac Park. A red bow on the candle means 'In Honor of', a green bow is 'In Memory of'. Donations go to a different charity each year. This year, donations go to support the Oriental History Museum.

Please send all information (In Honor or In Memory, and the name) and your donations to:

The Tree of Names & Lights
301 Midyette Street
Oriental, NC 28571

Make checks out to: The Tree of Lights

Have your donations in by Monday, December 4

The Jingle Bell Fun Run is Saturday, Dec 9 at 10a before the Spirit of Christmas parade at 1p. Adults, children, pets ... all are invited to participate in this casual run (no bicycles, please). The 2 mile course starts at the parking lot of Village Health & Fitness. Participants then walk, trot, run or saunter to the Whittaker Creek Marina entrance. From there, it's back again to Village Health & Fitness for the full course. Holiday dress/decor is encouraged. Registration cost is donation only (any amount, even \$1). Proceeds benefit Hope Clinic.

Touch a dragon for good luck.... Be out on Hodges Street on December 31 to ring in 2024 at the running of the **Oriental New Years' Eve Dragon**. There are two runnings – both starting and finishing at Hodges and South Water. The first run starts at 8pm, the second around 11:30pm and in recent years has had not one but two dragons as the **Chinese dragon** joins in on the late run. Bring pots, bring pans: make your own music for the dragon. After the end of that second dragon run, stick around the Hodges Street waterfront just a few minutes more: **at midnight, the Oriental Croaker will drop** at Town Dock to welcome in the New Year.