

**Oriental Woman's Club
General Meeting Minutes
March 7, 2017**

OPENING REMARKS

The General Meeting was called to order at 1:30 pm by President Debbie Montgomery at the clubhouse. Other officers present: Treasurer Theda Butkus, Co-secretary Anne Parker.

Anne Parker, substituting for Chaplin Lynne Rousseau, gave the devotion and Public Issues Chair, Cindy Porter, led the pledge to the flags.

In her opening remarks, President Montgomery, reminded attendees to sign up for volunteer opportunities at the tables at the back of the room, thanked Gay Webster, Deborah Powers, and Carol McAdoo for their work on the orientation meeting in February and reminded members to bid on the white elephant silent auction items at the back of the room.

[Note: Minutes of the January meeting were approved by 3 members with corrections and posted on the bulletin board at the back of the room. The EC voted to post its minutes at general meetings and the January and February minutes were also posted. The Treasurer's Report was also posted on the bulletin board at the back of the room.]

PROGRAM

The program was hosted by Conservation Chair, Fay Bond. Fay invited Bob Miller, retired forestry professor from the University of Wisconsin, Steven's Point, to talk about the Oriental Tree Board. The Tree Board is responsible for managing the public trees and Bob described the work of the group, why it's important, and what individuals can do. He invited members to the Arbor Day festivities on Saturday, March 18th at Lupton Park, starting with a pruning workshop at 9:30, followed by an Arbor Day tree planting at 11:00.

NEW BUSINESS

President Montgomery ~~then~~ presented the District Citizenship and Patriotism award to Oriental's Mayor and past OWC president, Sally Belangia. She will be competing with candidates from other districts at the GFWC-NC State Convention in April.

DIVISION REPORTS

EDUCATION: Carol McAdoo reported on the scholarship dinner to be held on May 5th at OWC. Because this is Cinco de Mayo, the theme is a Mexican dinner. Price is \$25 and proceeds benefit the scholarship fund. We will make decorations at the April meeting. (Attachment 1) Bring pipe cleaners, tissue, and scissors.

GARDEN CLUB: Jean Chastang reported on the Garden Club's successful trip to the Wilmington Camelia show and upcoming trip on March 30th to Art in Bloom in Raleigh. Let Betsy Hughes know if you're interested in going to Raleigh.

HOME LIFE: Carol Herman asked members to bring items for Easter baskets (baskets, stuffed animals, candy, etc.) to the April meeting. Baskets will be distributed to children in Pamlico County.

LADIES OF THE NEUSE: Marguerite Garrett asked members to support the November 4th bazaar, by making cookies or items to be sold.

PUBLIC ISSUES: Cindy Porter announced Shred Day on April 7th 11-2 at First Citizens Bank in Oriental. Several volunteers will be needed. She also announced a fraud seminar on March 26th at 8am, also sponsored by First Citizens. The seminar will be held at 8am at Brantley's restaurant in Oriental. Register with First Citizens.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ARTS FESTIVAL: Suzanne Jantzen presented OWC, District 8 and State Arts Festival awards. Ellen Blackmon, Carol McAdoo, Jean Chastang, Rosalyn Kutchins, and Karen Van Gamper all won first place at the local and district festivals. Ellen, Carol, and Rosalyn took first at the state festival, and Rosalyn, Jean, and Karen took second. Numerous students also placed in the top 3 in the statewide contest (see Attachment 2).

HOUSE MAINTENANCE: Carol McAdoo reminded members that spring cleaning will be held on March 21st at the clubhouse. Bring a bucket and gear to clean baseboards.

WAYS & MEANS: Carol McAdoo updated members on the ongoing White Elephant silent auction sale and announced that the Chowder Cook off had been cancelled due to lack of cooks. The committee is looking at possibilities for a smaller fundraiser this year.

NEW BUSINESS

Martha Harper, an English teacher at Pamlico Middle School has asked if members of OWC would be willing to serve as judges of three poetry contests per year for the middle school students. Roz Kutchins has offered to coordinate the effort. The first contest is March 28th. Dottie Osmun will be the judge.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

President Montgomery thanked today's hostesses, Sharon Morgan (chair), Carol Herman, and Phyllis Lane and asked for other business. Elizabeth Buckman referred members to the newsletter for information about an Alzheimer's and dementia seminar to be held on Friday, March 10th at Gardens of Pamlico.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45.

Submitted by Anne Parker, Co-secretary.

Reviewed and approved with corrections by Jean Chastang, Suzanne Jantzen, and Elizabeth McDonald

Attachments (2)