



The Junior Circle

Volume 7

December 2009

Our next club meeting

6:30 p.m.,

Thursday, December 10th,
at

Julie McCartan's home,
895 Backbone Court,
Westminster.

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The Co-Presidents' Message

Hi Everyone!

We hope you all had a Happy Thanksgiving and were able to share time with family and friends. December is now here and we hope you are well on your way to completing your Christmas shopping and holiday to do list. Hope you can pencil in time to join us for our December club meeting.

This month's holiday meeting will be held on Thursday, December 10, at 6:30 p.m. at Julie McCartan's home. The tradition of the December club meeting is our annual "Yankee Swap" and feasting on a variety of hors d'oeuvres and desserts. The Membership Committee will host the party/meeting. If you would like to participate in the "Yankee Swap" (we recommend everyone participate because we have a great time), bring a gift worth approximately \$15.00. This meeting is a great way to relax with friends during the holiday season.

It was great to meet Pam White and Kristin Sarboury at the November meeting. We hope to see both of you again at our December holiday meeting.

A special thanks to the Family Support Committee for organizing the wonderful Barter Dinner and making all the delicious desserts. Thank you to Chef Lou Funk and Jen Cellini Wolf who catered an outstanding dinner. It was a special treat for all the club members to enjoy. It gave everyone a chance to enjoy the awesome food and fellowship with friends. If any club member did not have a chance to pick a holiday gift tag to purchase an item for one of our families we are sponsoring for Christmas you could purchase a Wal-Mart or Target gift card in any amount for one of the families. Please bring all Christmas gifts (wrapped) with the holiday tag attached for our Christmas families to the December meeting or make other arrangements before the meeting with Vickie Kyle or Martha Brown.

Thank you to Sandy Lynch for the beautiful club yearbooks that were distributed at the Barter Dinner. Please see Sandy or Jessica Brock to pick up your copy.

The GFWC Annual Holiday Open House is Wednesday December 9th at the GFWC Headquarters in Washington, DC. A bunch of us will be going and carpooling to the event. Our club has been asked to pour the wine and punch at the event. It is a lovely reception and a chance to see our GFWC home. Please call us ASAP if you can join us. We will need to leave Westminster by 3:00 p.m.

Please circle Saturday, January 30, 2010, to join for the mid winter rally junior meeting. Our club will be hosting this junior state meeting. It will be a day of service and a fun meeting. We will need our club members to help with the meeting. Our club will set up, provide a continental breakfast, organize the luncheon and clean up at the end of the meeting. It will be held at the Westminster Riding Club.



It is the time of year to think about the LEADS program. The GFWC International convention will be in Omaha, Nebraska, June 12th – 15th 2010. The convention kicks off with the LEADS Seminar (Leadership Education And Development Seminar). One club woman is chosen to represent each state. GFWC pays for her travel and two nights of lodging to the convention and the LEADS Seminar. It is a great program. If you are interested in applying please let us know ASAP.

Hope to see you at the Julie's on December 10th. Have a safe, healthy and happy holiday season!

Kristin and Tricia

Santa's Workshop Update



Santa's Workshop is Saturday, December 5th. We still have a few spots open if you know of anyone who'd like to attend. We need bags of small Christmas colored candy to decorate the gingerbread houses, about 12 boxes of graham crackers (plain Nabisco please) to make the houses, and 12 large bags of confectioner sugar for the royal icing. We will be making the houses on December 2nd and 3rd at my house if anyone wants to help out. If anyone is interested in donating these items or the \$\$ to buy them - please contact me by December 1st at 410-848-4171 or babscondon@comcast.net. Thanks! Babs

Family Support Focus



It is hard to believe Christmas is only a month away. That means we need to get our gifts together for the families we are supporting this holiday season. We will be giving gifts to two (2) families and also giving items to Shepherds Staff and the Women's Shelter. Please bring your gifts, picked at the Barter Dinner, to our Christmas party, wrapped and with the gift tag attached to the outside. (Reminder: Shepherds Staff asked that their gifts not be wrapped!) If you were unable to attend the dinner and would like to bring a gift, there are a few gift ideas still available, contact Vickie Kyle.

We want to thank everyone who contributed gift cards or money at the Barter Dinner. We collected approximately \$600.00 which will be divided among the families for Thanksgiving & Christmas. Also a special thank you to everyone who helped with the Barter Dinner.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the Christmas party. Wishing you and your families a happy, healthy holiday season.

Family Support

Membership Memo



It's so hard to believe it is December, but that means it's time for our Holiday party. This year it will be at Julie McCartan's house (directions on page three) at 6:30. Remember to bring your gifts for our adopted families and a wrapped gift (\$20 limit) for our gift exchange. The Membership Committee JM0331 provides the food and drinks so bring yourself and your gifts for a fun filled evening.

We also wanted to remind you there will not be a book club meeting in December, but join us in January to discuss The Book Thief by Markus Zusak. We will meet at Kim Hinton's house. In February we will be reading and discussing Angry Housewives Eating Bon Bons by Lorna Landvik. We hope to see you there! If you don't have time to read the books please join us anyway for a fun social opportunity! The Book Club meets on the fourth Thursday of the month. If you have any suggestions for upcoming books, please let Jessica Brock or Sue Burk know.

Looking forward to celebrating the holidays with you this month!

Sue and Jessica

Directions to the McCartan Home



Directions to Julie McCartan's (410-871-0375) home from downtown Westminster (Main Street and Route 27):

- Go south on 27, about 2 miles from Main Street to Old Westminster Road
- Turn right on Old Westminster Road
- Go about ¼ mile and turn right on to Backbone Court, the first road on the right
- It is the first house on the right, 895 Backbone Court

Public Affairs Posting



Hi there Ladies!

I don't know if any of you saw the article in the paper about the bold holdup that happened at Weis the other week, but I feel compelled to give some advice on how to protect yourselves from these criminals. I have started to put my purse in the front passenger side, on the floor, before I begin to put my groceries in my vehicle. If you have a hatch on your vehicle, throw your purse over the back seat, just so no one can see your purse and try to snatch it. Always look around you and be aware of the people in the parking lot. If you have any suspicious people hanging around and don't feel safe, turn around and go back in the store. Most stores have security people who can escort you to your car. This is the time of year when criminals are looking for vulnerable moments on your part and will just glide by and snatch your purse from your cart. My suggestion is use the child safety strap and put it through your purse strap and snap it. If they try to take it, they will be real surprised when it won't move more than a few inches before it snaps back. When you are shopping, hold your purse close to you and make sure it is closed. If you have a zipper purse, make sure it is turned towards the front of you so no one can easily slide their hand in and out without you knowing.

Be very mindful of your credit cards and make sure you conceal your transactions as much as possible to make sure no one tries to steal your identity. Take those receipts and put them in a safe place in your wallet so no one can get private information from them. Be safe and protect yourselves as much as possible.

It is sad to say, with things so bad with the economy, there are a lot of desperate people out there. I wish there was a magic wand to make things better for these people. However, all we can do is recognize people we know having a rough time and ask if there is anything we can do to help. Pride has a tendency to hold people back from asking, but at this point in time, we need to look after friends and family and see if we can help in anyway. I know if I was in that position, I would feel relieved someone recognized my need for help and loving enough to offer a helping hand.

Take care ladies and may your holidays be what you wish them to be. Just remember, a lot of gifts does not make a successful Christmas. It is the love of family and friends and the hope of what that little child, born in Bethlehem, gave to each and every one of us. It is time to take back the true meaning of Christmas and not what the stores and their advertising have made it to be the last few years.



MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Patti Jo

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| December Birthdays  | December Hostesses | Meals on Wheels  |
| <p>December 15th - Grace Kelly-Lawler</p> | <p>Members of the Membership Committee Co-Chaired by Jessica Brock & Sue Burk</p> | <p>Contact: Martha Brown 410-848-6036 December 15th - Babs Condon & Martha December 29th - Carol Horne & Martha January 19th - Julie McCartan & Martha</p> |

Newsletter Deadline

Articles for the January newsletter are due by December 28th to Sandy Lynch. Articles can be e-mailed to sanlyn790@gmail.com, mailed to 3495 Woodholme Drive, Hampstead, MD 21074, or called to 410-970-6306.

News from the Editor



Well, ladies, I am the reason for this month's updated Club Roster. I have a new e-mail address (also found below.) Be sure to watch next month's newsletter for the addition of the new members inducted at our November Barter Dinner. If at any time your information changes, please contact me with such changes. Keeping our information updated, enables easy communication between club members at all times.

The Junior Circle is published monthly for the GFWC Junior Woman's Club of Westminster, Inc. For more information about events and information, please contact Tricia Wagman at trishwagman@gmail.com or Kristin Barmoy at kbarmoy@aol.com. For questions concerning the electronic version of the newsletter, please contact Sandy Lynch at sanlyn790@gmail.com.

Thanks for helping with our club communications!

Sandy

Because You are Special

by Thena Smith



There is an early present

That I have chosen to send

In honor of Christmas

And because you are my friend.

Sometimes due to things that happen.

We cannot gather as we would choose,

So celebrating when we can

Helps to keep away the blues.

So Merry Christmas, Dearest Friend.

I hope you enjoy your little gift,

That it brightens up your day

And gives your heart a lift!