



## **WOMENS LEAGUE OF WASHINGTON COLLEGE**

### ***January Newsletter***

#### **A Note from Darla and Barbara:**

Happy New Year Ladies!!!

It feels like only yesterday we were raising a glass together, enjoying fine food, and great company at our Champagne Reception. Now, the holiday season is behind us, and we hope it was a joyous one for you.

After all the excitement and anticipation, wouldn't it be wonderful if the holidays lasted just a bit longer?

However, time marches on, and we find ourselves in January, which is a month of promise and new beginnings. It is a time when we reflect on what we have accomplished and focus on all the exciting things ahead for Women's League.

Check out how much fun we have when we're working together. We always welcome your input on fund raising ideas for our Washington College students, trips, speakers and other events.

*Barbara and Darla*

#### **December Reflections from the Committee Chairs**

##### **Fall Exam Care Recap from Linda Applegate**

Eighteen volunteers prepared 230 Exam Care Packages (ECP) and had a great time working together in support of Washington College and scholarships. The Exam Care Team had few kinks, but this team is a well oiled machine that runs smoothly despite challenges.

A great addition was from Modern Stone Age Kitchen's Cristina Schindler whose son is a freshman at WC. She learned about ECP through emails to parents. Cristina suggested having coupons in the ECP to entice students to come to local businesses. She supplied the coupons for a free MSAK pretzel. The committee will in touch with her to see if the students

used the coupon. If this effort proves to be a success we will invite other local businesses to join us.

A Washington College senior supplied us with written suggestions on how to relax during exam preparations - physical actions, deep breathing and calming exercises - another wonderful addition to the ECP

Thanks to donations from the parents and WLWC members all of the Washington Scholars received a ECP.

The following team members encourage you to volunteer for this effort. It is fun to meet other members while working on the assembly line. We all have a great time working together. Beth Lavery - orders, and individualized notes for each student Anne Hart - website management and keeping track of monies Bobby Sutton - College relations - arranging for rooms - receiving deliveries, Karen Ellner - volunteers Linda Applegate - ordering snacks and boxes.

### **Dickens Ye Olde Christmas Shoppe Recap from Darla Downer**

Women's League participated in the Chestertown *Dickens of a Christmas Festival*, by sponsoring a Christmas Shoppe in the The Bank, Saturday December 7th

We have already been invited to participate next year with extended Friday evening hours. Please keep that in mind as you're organizing your Christmas decorations. Perhaps you can put aside some you didn't use and have them ready for next year's shoppe.

Thanks so much to everyone who has volunteered as our elves some even after volunteering at other Dickens venues. WLWC netted \$1,039 for the Scholarships and Miller Library donations.

### **Christmas in Odessa Holiday Tour and Lunch from Ginette Corney**

A group of us met at Wilmer Park on the morning of December 10<sup>th</sup> and drove to charming Odessa where we enjoyed a Peter Pan themed tour of a couple of historic houses. Every year a different children's book is selected for the annual theme. The decorators and historians proceed to orchestrate each

room to convey part of the story, moving furniture and adding items to illustrate the scene. It was truly charming! We proceeded to have lunch at Cantwell's Tavern, where the flatbreads ruled! All in all, a lovely day with our WLWC friends.

### **Champagne Reception Recap from Sandee Trakat**

The *Champagne Reception* at the President's House was a huge success and was enjoyed by all who attended. We were entertained with holiday music sung by twelve members of the River Singers and enjoyed a tasty spread of hearty appetizers, desserts and drinks of your choosing.

Committee member, Suzanne Kastendike was very successful selling raffle tickets for our wine basket containing 12 bottles of wine donated by members and committee chairs on the Board of Directors. It is always a Reception fund raiser favorite. The winner this year was Darla Downer.

President Mike Sosulski and his wife and a WLWC member, Cori Crane were very welcoming hosts. Many thanks for opening your home and sponsoring this beautiful evening. Because of their generosity and all who bought raffle tickets, WLWC raised \$1,643 for the Scholarships and Miller Library donations.

## **2025 NEW BEGINNINGS**

### **JANUARY**

#### ***WLWC Dinner Out at the College***

At the Champagne Reception President Sosulski said that the Hodson Dining Hall is now open on Monday night to the community during the school year. It was suggested we choose a Monday night and make a ***WLWC Dinner Out at the College*** in January.

Please select the Monday you would prefer and the time: Monday January 20th or Monday January 27th. Dinner hours are from 4-7pm.

To sign up please email: [womensleaguewashingtoncollege@gmail.com](mailto:womensleaguewashingtoncollege@gmail.com) by by Thursday, January 16th with the Monday and time you prefer.

## **FEBRUARY 12th**

### ***Winter Tea at the White Swan Tavern***

The Valentine Tea at the White Swan Tavern was such a popular event last year the Program Committee knew it was a must for 2025. The tea is scheduled for Wednesday, February 12th at 1:00 pm. The cost for the Tea is \$35 per Member which includes a \$10 donation to the Scholarship and Endowment Fund.

The Tea is limited to 20 Members due to the size of the Tavern dining spaces. Make your reservations quickly by emailing:  
womensleaguewashingtoncollege@gmail.com.

## **MARCH 20th (tentative date)**

### ***Harriet Tubman Museum and Educational Center***

The Event Planning Committee is gauging interest in a trip to the Harriet Tubman Museum at the end of March. The outing would include a docent-led tour of the museum and a stroll to the historic Cambridge waterfront, also led by our guide. Of course, lunch would be part of the plan, either in Cambridge or on Kent Island. If you are interested in this event, please email:  
womensleaguewashingtoncollege@gmail.com.. Depending on the level of positive response the Event Planning Committee will proceed to make arrangements for this outing.

### ***APRIL/MAY- Spring Scholarship Fund Raiser TBD***

### ***JUNE- Spring Scholarship Donation Event TBD***

## **TOES AND TUSHIES/GEORGE'S FREE STORE**

Karen and Sandy will be shopping for supplies for The Kent Family Center and George's Free Pantry the week of January 13th. The Kent Family Center is always in need of diapers in size 5 or 6. The pantry can always use macaroni and cheese, soup, granola bars, tuna fish, pasta and gatorade. If you would prefer to make a monetary donation, please contact Karen thru womensleaguewashingtoncollege@gmail.com.

## NEWS AND NOTES

### **A Rare First Edition, *The Life of Isaac Mason as a Slave*, Is Now at Miller Library from Mary Alice Ball**

“Because of the Women’s League generous support we were able to acquire (using roughly a quarter of your donation) the rare first edition of *The Life of Isaac Mason as a Slave*. Some of you may have heard of Isaac Mason, Kent County native, because of the Chesapeake Heartland project. You may have even seen the play, [Isaac: A Musical Journey](#). Mason escaped slavery and settled in Worcester, Massachusetts, later self-publishing this autobiography in 1893.

I should add, since I already heard from one of you, that the book, *The Life of Isaac Mason as a Slave*, was digitized and is available on the Internet Archive at: <https://archive.org/details/lifeofisaacmason00maso/mode/2up> if any of you would like to look at it. Two miracles of modern technology! First, that we became aware of the first edition's sale so quickly, and second, that a digital copy is freely available on the Internet.

I will always be grateful for your collective and individual donations to Miller Library, but no more so than yesterday when we were able to respond within hours and bring this unique title home to Kent County. Please share my thank you with the rest of your members. And, I would be remiss if I didn't remind you that year-end charitable gifts to Library and Academic Technology are always welcome.”

### **WLWC Member Directory is Now Available on our Web Site Members Tab**

The Directory is now posted under password protection on the WLWC website (<https://www.womensleagueofwashingtoncollege.com/>) under the Members Only tab. Please contact Barbara Brown [barbarajune223@gmail.com](mailto:barbarajune223@gmail.com) if you need the password.

This makes the Directory easily accessible any time you need it. You will also notice that we are listing birthdays in the Directory so friends can wish you greetings on your special day.

## January Birthdays

Birthday Wishes to:

January 20	Pat Barrows
January 28	Carolyn Davis
January 29	Alice Marie Barron
January 29	Mackey Dutton